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Karnataka mulls over amending new criminal laws

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A fresh round of tussle with the Centre appears to be ensuing as Karnataka has not only opposed the new criminal laws brought in by the Union government but also made it clear that it was considering amending these laws.

Law Minister H.K. Patil demanded that the Centre defer the implementation of new laws until it included the recommendations suggested by the State government last year.

He accused the Centre of ignoring a majority of Karnataka's recommendations and said the Centre implemented the new laws without incorporating any of the changes. "If the Centre does not heed the State's request to defer the implementation of these laws, Karnataka will make use of the Constitutional provisions to enact amendments," Mr. Patil said.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 4

New criminal laws will prioritise justice: Shah

Home Minister says it will take up to three or four years for relevant 'technical aspects' of the legislation to become fully applicable; laws are available in all languages in the Eighth Schedule

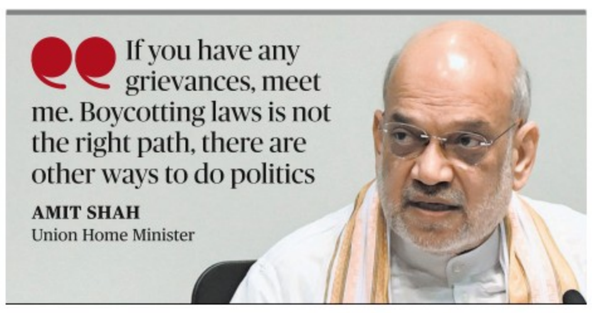
Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Monday that it would take up to three or four years for the "entire process" and relevant "technical aspects" of the three new criminal laws to become fully applicable.

After the entire process was implemented, a person would get justice even from the Supreme Court within three years of registration of the first information report (FIR).

Mr. Shah said the new laws would prioritise justice instead of punishment.

The Home Minister said the three laws were available in all the languages mentioned in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, which included Tamil, and the court proceedings would also take place in those languages.


If you have any grievances, meet me. Boycotting laws is not the right path, there are other ways to do politics
AMIT SHAH
Union Home Minister

"The laws have been translated to Tamil and the proceedings will also take place in Tamil. Neither the [Tamil Nadu] Chief Minister, nor the Members of Parliament have asked time for a discussion regarding their opposition to the names of laws. I want to appeal again. If you have any grievances, meet me. Boycotting laws is not the right path, there are other ways to do politics," Mr. Shah said on being asked about Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin's objections to the laws.

On June 18, Mr. Stalin wrote to Mr. Shah to keep the laws in abeyance stating that the naming of the laws (in Sanskrit) is clearly violative of Article 348.

Remand period

Mr. Shah asserted that the total duration of police custody remained 15 days and it had not been extended up to 60 days.

"The total remand will be 15 days but will have to be secured within 60 days [of arrest], and can be taken in parts. Earlier, if an accused was sent to police remand and he got himself admitted to a hospital for 15 days then there was no interrogation as his remand period used to expire," Mr. Shah said.

The Home Minister made it clear that the BNS, which came into force on Monday, had the provision of a maximum 15-day police custody as the erstwhile IPC, and dispelled confusion that the remand period had been extended.

Regarding the missing Section on penal provisions for sexual crimes against men and transgender persons, Mr. Shah said, "There is a Supreme Court judgment on this, it is a matter of interpretation. We will discuss with the Supreme Court."

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FIRST CASE REGISTERED
» PAGE 12

NEARBY

KEA to work on govt. holidays

BENGALURU
The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has decided to work on government holidays in July, August, and September as the process of counselling and seat allotment will begin in a few days for the candidates who have qualified in CET 2024 and NEET 2024 for admission to professional courses. » Page 2

Monsoon session of legislature from July 15 to 26

BENGALURU
The State government has decided to conduct the monsoon session of the legislature from July 15 to 26, said Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil on Monday. A decision on this was taken in the State Cabinet on June 20. » Page 4

Medha Patkar gets jail term for 'defaming' Delhi L-G

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Monday sentenced Medha Patkar, activist and founding member of the Narmada Bachao Andolan, to imprisonment for five months in a 23-year-old criminal defamation case lodged against her by Delhi Lieutenant-Governor V.K. Saxena.

The court also ordered her to pay ₹10-lakh compensation to Mr. Saxena.

Metropolitan Magistrate Raghav Sharma of the Saket court, who had convicted Ms. Patkar under Section 500 of the Indian Penal Code on May 24, said the order would remain suspended for 30 days.

The court rejected her prayer to release her on probation, and said it was not imposing a jail term of a year or two, considering her age and health.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

June's GST revenue growth slows to three-year low; no official statement

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

Growth in India's gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections slowed to a three-year low in June, with revenues rising about 7.74% to about ₹1.74 lakh crore from ₹1,61,497 crore collected in the year-earlier period, according to numbers shared informally by officials.

The Finance Ministry, which generally releases monthly GST revenue collections on the first of every subsequent month, including details about trends on State-wise collections and revenues collected from domestic transactions and imports, had not officially issued any statement on June's indirect tax receipts till the time of going to press on Monday.

Social media posts

The Ministry did put out a series of social media posts to mark the seventh anniversary of the GST regime, with July 1 marked as GST Day, to assert that it had brought "happiness for every home" with lower rates on household goods, a level playing field for all taxpayers, and lower compliance burden on small businesses.

The growth in June's gross GST revenues, pertaining to transactions undertaken in the economy during the month of May, was the slowest pace since June 2021.

The rise in last month's gross GST revenues also trails the 12.4% and 10% growth recorded in April and May 2024, respectively, and is a mere 0.73% above May's gross tally of ₹1,72,739 crore. For the first quarter, gross GST revenues were about ₹5,57,006 crore, roughly 10.2% higher than the ₹5.05 lakh crore collected in the year-earlier period.

In recent months, the Ministry had begun sharing details about net GST collections as well, after factoring in refunds.

In April, net GST collections had risen 15.5% to ₹1.92 lakh crore out of the record gross revenues of over ₹2.1 lakh crore. However, in May, net GST revenue growth eased to 6.9% with a tally of ₹1.44 lakh crore. In the absence of an official statement, net collections last month are not known.

Economists, speaking on condition of anonymity, expressed surprise at the absence of an official statement on the GST revenues for last month, and reckoned this would hamper analysis on activity trends in the economy.

While data for Central and State GST collections were not available, an official source said that about ₹39,600 crore had been settled to the central GST account from Integrated GST (IGST) collections, while States had been given ₹33,548 crore from the IGST pool.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

Govt. undecided on deadline to fix boundaries for Census

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The deadline has been extended nine times since December 2020.

The deadline to freeze administrative boundaries of districts, tehsils, towns, municipal bodies and others for the Census exercise ended on Sunday, but a new date has not been announced. A senior government official told *The Hindu* that a "decision is yet to be taken and discussions are being held".

The ambiguity has a direct impact on the dates of the Census exercise that was previously held in 2011. The deadline has been extended nine times since December 2020.

A former Census official said an order for a *post-facto* extension could be issued on a later date, but if that was not done, it meant doors were open for the Census exercise in the next three to six months.

The order on December 30, 2023 which extended the freezing of administrative boundaries by State governments till June 30, 2024 effectively pushed the decennial Census exercise at least till October 1 as it usually takes three months to prepare the enumerators for the task.

Women's quota

The implementation of the women's reservation Act passed in the Special Session of Parliament last year, reserving 33% of seats in Parliament and the Assemblies for women, is dependent on the conduct of the Census.

According to the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, reservation of one-third of the seats in the Lok Sabha and the Assemblies for women shall come into effect after an exercise of delimitation is undertaken based on the relevant figures of the first Census recorded after the Act has commenced.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah informed the Lok Sabha last year that the Census and delimitation of constituencies would be conducted after the Lok Sabha election, but did not specify the year.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

Against all odds: Dilip's non-linear progression to the top

His extraordinary metamorphosis from a humble mathematics tutor, widely admired for his modesty and unwavering dedication, to an influential mentor for aspiring cricketers and established superstars is heartwarming; his passion for the game is a thread that connects us all

Key figure: Dilip was a crucial component of India's T20 World Cup-winning team. K.R. DEEPAK

Tarun Shastry

Fielding is not just an aspect of cricket; it is the game-changer that can profoundly influence the outcome of a match or even an entire tournament.

While batting and bowling hog the limelight, fielding is as, if not the most important facet. A stunning catch, a lightning-quick direct hit, or a diving stop can shift the momentum of a game in a heartbeat. Its impact reverberates far beyond the boundary, shaping the destiny of players and teams.

The date is June 29 2024. The place is Kensington Oval, Barbados, and the occasion is the Men's T20 World Cup final.

It's a clash between a side that has come agonisingly close to winning the title in recent times and another with a rich history of incredible talent but an inability to turn up in crunch moments, enough to earn the moniker 'Chokers.'

In Barbados, after a scintillating run to the final, it suddenly looked like a familiar script was unfolding. As the elusive World Cup title looked like it was slipping out of India's grasp once more, Hardik Pandya was entrusted by India captain Rohit Sharma with the daunting task of defending just 16 runs off the last over. He had the unenviable task of doing so against South Africa's big-hitting David Miller.

The weight of history was not lost on this moment. An extraordinary century, a devastating spell of bowling, or a championship-winning catch, are not just mere incidents in a match, particularly in a final. They could just prove pivotal in the game's narrative.

A striking example of this is Kapil Dev's remarkable catch to dismiss – arguably, the greatest batter the world had seen – Sir Viv Richards in the 1983 World Cup final. That one simple catch changed not just the course of the final, but the destiny of Indian cricket forever.

Cut to Barbados and in the thick of it all was a player heavily likened to Kapil for his allround prowess. The aspirations of 1.5 billion Indians hinged on Hardik and the field around him to deliver.

Miller began with purpose, going after Hardik off the very first ball of the 20th over, a low, wide full toss outside off heading straight down the ground. On any other day, it would have been curtains for India.

However, in an electrifying turn of events, Suryakumar Yadav pulled off one of the most memorable catches in World Cup history. Racing from wide long-off, he skillfully plucked the ball with extraordinary precision millimeters away from the boundary cushions.

While his momentum threatenened to carry him past the ropes, the ace batter had the presence of mind to throw the ball back in the air. He hopped back into the field of play and completed one of the most important catches of his career, all in a few seconds!

'OUT' said the giant screen. The cameras then instantly panned to one man in particular in the Indian dugout, jumping and punching the air: India's fielding coach, T. Dilip. Five balls later, it was time to say the words once could scarcely believe - India was world champion.

Dilip's quiet hard work behind the scenes would go down to the difference between India holding the trophy and finishing empty-handed from an ICC tournament once more.

Dressing room rituals

India's 2023 World Cup campaign was punctuated by notable moments, both on and off the field. One of the most endearing was the fielding awards ceremony, a unique gathering in the Indian dressing room after every match.

The regular programming on BCCI TV took a delightful turn with the inclusion of captivating behind-the-scenes footage of the fielding medal ceremony.

This was Dilip's brainchild.

To recognise and reward exceptional performances on the field, he ensured that the legends of the game from Sachin Tendulkar, Viv Richards, Dinesh Karthik and even a novel use of the spider cam, were involved. The idea was to boost team morale and celebrate the little moments that made India the juggernaut it was in the run-up to the final.

"It is about judging attitude. There are statistics for catches taken and many boundaries stopped, but we look at the overall contribution. An inning has 300 balls; how do you handle them on the field? This is not just about one brilliant catch but the overall effort," Dilip said while acquainting reporters with the ceremony during the ODI showpiece.

The artist

Morale-building was particularly important to Dilip given the tribulations he had to go through in his own career.

As an 11-year-old, Dilip – like many others his age – dreamt of one day donning national colours. However, countless elements came in the way, including the absence of financial assistance and his family's support. Add to that the fierce competition back in the day.

"My journey has been pretty challenging with many ups and downs, but I am happy about where I have reached," Dilip told seasoned Indian spinner R. Ashwin in a chat on his YouTube channel.

"Luckily, I was very good at studies, so I could manage with taking tuitions. I used to teach maths to ensure it took care of the financial needs of attending an academy and playing cricket.

> It is about judging attitude. There are statistics for catches taken and many boundaries stopped, but we look at the overall contribution. An inning has 300 balls; how do you handle them on the field? This is not just about one brilliant catch but the overall effort
>
> **DILIP**
> on his unique fielding medal ceremonies

"My father was very clear, 'No sports.' I didn't have that option because he did not know much about sports."

Despite encountering numerous hardships, Dilip's unwavering love for the game propelled him towards the cricket fields of Hyderabad and it took plenty of sacrifices to fuel his ambitions.

There began his journey as a coach for children aged nine and under at a local academy.

Like any other teacher, his satisfaction came from the success of his students.

"During my playing days, I was expecting people to give me inputs about my game, as to what to do and what not to do.

So, I decided that if I get a chance to teach young kids, I will try to help in whatever way I can. When I taught a particular shot and if the student executed the same in the nets or during a match, I would feel delighted and that ignited the spark in me to take my coaching duties more seriously."

In 2004, Dilip decided to enrol in the BCCI Level-1 coaching programme.

"I did a level-1 in 2004; I did not see it as a profession back then. I just wanted to learn something. Surprisingly, I ended up among the top three coaches there. For the next couple of years, I played and coached side-by-side.

"But there came a point where I had to decide on where my future was heading in that particular situation, so I chose coaching and, in 2007, I moved up to level-2."

Dilip quickly found an opportunity to share his expertise as a coach for the under-14 and under-16 teams at the Hyderabad Cricket Academy. His coaching career flourished under the guidance of R. Sridhar, one of India's top fielding coaches.

"In 2008, I was working at the HCA as the U-14 and U-16 fielding coach. At that time, Sridhar was working at the National Cricket Academy (NCA). He used to guide me on what to do and how to do things. He achieved success by going through the grind. Being from the same state, his journey was inspirational for me."

With the inception of the Indian Premier League in 2008, Dilip got his first breakthrough- a stint with the now-defunct Deccan Chargers in 2009.

"I got to work for Deccan Chargers for three years. I was Mike Young's assistant fielding coach.

"Mike Young (was) a baseball coach. I saw his side-arm throws and way of running backwards to take a catch. I honed those skills by observing and assisting him."

Later that year, Dilip went a step further in his career and realised his dream of joining the NCA as a specialist fielding coach.

"My first goal when I started level-2 in 2007 was to be a coach in the NCA. I never dreamt of being an Indian team coach back then.

"To be practical, I just wanted to be a residential coach at NCA, stay there for one year, and work. That was my goal in 2007, and of course, I got an opportunity in 2009. Over time, the NCA gave me the financial help I needed and the experience to work with professionals.

"Even HCA gave me a position as a coach. Maybe the financial upside was not too high but the experience of working with U-14, U-16, U-19, U-22, U-25, and then the Ranji Trophy team, and working with the players from the state and at the NCA gave me many opportunities to learn what exactly a player requires at the highest level.

"From 2008 to 2019, I was with the NCA. I worked in various national and zonal camps with women, junior boys, and others. I was able to work with players like Shubman Gill and Axar Patel among others during their formative years."

When R. Sridhar concluded his seven-year stint as the Indian team's fielding coach, the side was a changed unit.

It was now a top-notch fielding outfit, with a new intensity and openness to innovation in the field and with the keeping gloves.

When Dilip took over, he was entrusted with maintaining this high standard and ensuring effective player management. This is a key aspect of the team's holistic development and a duty he has essayed to perfection to date.

There may be a 'Dilip' in most cricket lovers, who would have yearned to represent the nation on the cricket field.

His extraordinary metamorphosis from a humble mathematics tutor widely admired for his modesty and unwavering dedication, to an influential mentor for prodigies and established superstars is incredibly heart-warming. His passion for the game is a thread that connects us all.

While we continue to comment on cricket matches from our living rooms and armchairs, he is shaping future cricket stars in the team's dressing room. We dreamt, and he is living our dream.

THE GIST

- Fielding is an art. And in the decisive moments of the last over, the aspirations of 1.5 billion Indians hinged on Hardik and India's fielding unit to deliver
- Dilip's extraordinary journey to the Indian cricket team as its fielding coach is a testament to his determination and resilience, and a story for the ages
- From 2008 to 2019, Dilip was with the NCA. He worked in various national and zonal camps with women, junior boys, and others, and worked with Shubman Gill, Axar Patel, and others during their formative years

KEA to work on govt. holidays to complete admissions on time

This is the period when counselling and seat allotment for candidates who qualified in CET 2024 and NEET 2024 for admission to professional courses, including engineering and medical, will be carried out

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has decided to work on government holidays in July, August, and September, as the process of counselling and seat allotment will begin in a few days for the candidates who have qualified in CET 2024 and NEET 2024 for admission to professional courses.

The KEA staff will work on all government holidays, including Sundays, and second and fourth Saturdays, during these three months.

Employees working on holidays can get compensatory leave. The KEA has decided to give additional payment to the staff working on government holidays, if they do not get compensatory leave as well.

Earlier, the KEA, was only conducting the CET examination, counselling, and seat allotment process for admission to professional courses in Karnataka. However, in recent years, the State government has given the responsibility of recruitment to various departments through competitive examinations to the KEA. These were earlier conducted by the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC).

A file photo of candidates waiting for document verification in Bengaluru.

Apart from this, the KEA has been given the responsibility of conducting competitive examinations and selecting candidates for admission to class 6 in residential schools, including Morarji Desai Residential School.

This year, out of 3,49,653 candidates who had registered for the UG-CET 2024, a total of 3,10,314 appeared for the examination. Out of this, 2,74,595 candidates were eligible for engineering courses, 2,15,965 for BSc (Agriculture), 2,19,887 for BVSc, 2,19,483 for BNYS, 2,78,919 for BPharma, 2,79,313 for Pharma-D, and 2,28,058 candidates qualified for BSc nursing course.

Out of 1,50,171 candidates who appeared for UGNEET 2024 in Karnataka, 89,088 qualified for admission to medical courses. All these candidates are to be counselled in the next three months and seats are to be allotted. This process will start in a few days.

In addition to all these, seats are to be allotted to candidates who qualified in PGCET for postgraduate engineering and MBA courses, and engineering lateral entry to those who have qualified in DCET. For most of the professional courses, the academic year 2024-25 will start in August, by which time the process of allotment of seats should be almost completed.

Prasanna H., Executive Director, KEA, said: "Besides CET, the KEA is conducting competitive examinations for recruitment of various departments in the government of Karnataka. The main responsibility of KEA is to conduct counselling and allot seats to candidates who qualify in the CET. As this process takes place in July, August, and September, our staff are required to work even on government holidays during these months. Otherwise, we will not be able to complete all the processes within the stipulated time. This will cause problems for students. This is the peak time for us. Every day, we will receive calls from students and parents. Therefore, it has been decided to operate even on government holidays for these three months, which will be of great help to students and parents."

State government to set up solar park in Madhugiri

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The proposed park at Madhugiri will be on the lines of the Pavagada solar park in Tumakuru district, which is among Asia's largest solar parks. FILE PHOTO

The State government plans to develop a solar park at Madhugiri in Tumakuru district, on the lines of the Pavagada solar park in the same district, which is among Asia's largest solar parks.

Speaking in Tumakuru on Monday, Energy Minister K.J. George said that the park will be developed in partnership with Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDCIL).

"This partnership aims to leverage local expertise and resources to identify suitable land parcels essential for advancing Karnataka's renewable energy agenda, instilling confidence in the project's success," he said.

After a review meeting about the implementation of the KUSUM -C project in Tumakuru, Mr. George said: "The subsidy for free electricity for farmers' pumpsets is increasing annually. Despite efforts to regularise farmers' pumpsets, the issue persists, leading to transformer damage and power supply disruptions due to illegal connections. In this context, we are prioritising the KUSUM-B and KUSUM-C projects, encouraging the adoption of solar pumpsets."

Outlining the details of the KUSUM-C project, he stated: "To generate 1 MW of electricity under the KUSUM-C project, four to five acres of land are needed. If government land is used, it will be provided free of cost and leased out for 25 years. Lessees will be paid ₹25,000 per acre annually during the lease period. These funds will be deposited in the district collector's account and allocated to develop local anganwadis, schools, and panchayats."

'Ample chances for students'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

There are ample opportunities for students in science and technology, and innovation; they should utilise this and become entrepreneurs, said former ISRO Chairman K. Sivan.

Speaking at the convocation of AMC College recently, Dr. Sivan said that today science and technology is progressing at a fast pace.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Notice Inviting E-Auction

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Auction for the following works:

E-Auction Catalogue No. DWR-ND-OSN-2024 Dated: 08-07-2024

Name of the work with its location

Contract for Non Digital Home Advertisement (inside Station) at Dharwad Railway Station.

E-Auction on 08-07-2024 at 12:00 Hrs. to 12:30 Hrs.

E-Auction Catalogue No. VINYL-T-ADV-24 Dated:12-07-2024

Name of the work with its location

Contract for Display of Advertisements through Vinyl Wrapping on entire side wall of the coaches & its linked rakes

E-Auction on 12-07-2024 at 12:00 Hrs. to 12:30 Hrs.

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in (E-Auction Portal)

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Hubballi

PUB/205/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

भारतीय खाद्य निगम FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA

REGIONAL OFFICE : No. 10, EAST END MAIN ROAD, 4th 'T' BLOCK, JAYANAGAR, BENGALURU - 560041

No. RO KA-28.0017.0/3/2023-SRE-RO KA Date: 01.07.2024

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited through e-Procurement portal for Two-Bid system, for construction of Godowns at two locations i.e FSD Raichur and FSD Bellary with PMS in Food Corporation of India, Karnataka Region. Notice Inviting Tender and Tender forms are published in the websites **http://eprocure.gov.in/** and **www.fciweb.nic.in**. Tenders with respect to FSD Raichur and FSD Bellary have been published on **25.06.2024 and 26.06.2024** respectively on CPP Portal. Tenders should be submitted online at **http://eprocure.gov.in/ within 02.00 PM on 16/07/2024 for FSD Raichur and within 02:00 PM on 17/07/2024 for FSD Bellary with PMS.**

महाप्रबंधक (कर्नाटक)
GENERAL MANAGER (Karnataka)

RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION, BENGALURU

Tender Notice No.: ELRESBC -Gr296-TL-SBGA-01 Date: 28.06.2024

TENDER NOTICE

The undersigned on behalf of The President of India invite e-tenders for the following works:

Item of work: Design, Supply, Construction, Testing and Commissioning of Single circuit 66kV, 2-phase transmission line from 66/11kV KPTCL substation at Shravanabelagola to 66kV/27KV Railway Traction substation at Shravanabelagola in Channarayapatna taluk, Hassan for an approximate Route length of 1.29kMs with Dismantling of existing existing SC tower in Yachenahally to Shravabelagola 66kV line along with 1 No. of 66kV terminal bay at Sharavabelagola KPTCL Substation.

Approximate value: Rs.21263162.70

Last date of submission of bid for tender is 23.07.2024 at 15.00 Hours

For Full details of tender Notice and Tender Documents, Tenderer may logon to the website: **www.ireps.gov.in.** Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date.

Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer (P&P)
Railway Electrification, Bengaluru
For and on behalf of the President of India

PR-44/2024

PAMM "Serving Customers with a Smile"

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED

(Wholly owned government of Karnataka undertaking)
CIN Number: U04010KA2002SGC030436

No. GESCOM/SEE (Procurement)/EE/AEE/2024-25/16307-11 Date:01.07.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(KPPP Portal mode only)

PC-1347:- Manufacture and supply of Star 1 (4 Star) Rated 25 KVA Distribution Transformers to O&M Zone, GESCOM, Kalaburagi **(Short Term)**

PC-1348:- Manufacture and supply of Star 1 (4 Star) Rated 25 KVA Distribution Transformers to O&M Zone, GESCOM, Ballari **(Short Term)**

Dates: Bid documents available at KPPP Portal: on or after : **02.07.2024,** Last Date: **18.07.2024** @ 17:30 Hrs, Opening of Technical Bid: **20.07.2024** @ 11:00 Hrs, Price bid: **22.07.2024** @ 11:00 Hrs,

Tender Amount: **Rs. 666.22 Lakhs for each tender.**

Bidder Qualifying Requirements: are as per tender documents. For additional information Contact: Superintending Engineer El., Procurement, Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi-585102. Mobile: 9448499997. Web Site Address: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Procurement), GESCOM, Corporate Office, Kalaburagi.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/151/KSMC&A/2024-25

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, (Yelahanka Zone), BBMP, Amruthahalli, Byatarayanapura, Bengaluru - 560 092.

No: SADH(YLK)/TENDER/02/2024-25 Date: 01.07.2024

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)

(2nd Call) (Two Cover System)
(Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Yelahanka), BBMP, Bengaluru (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders in accordance with KTPP Rues 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies/Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour department for Maintenance of Parks.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimate Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)
1	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Jakkur Ward Parks (Ward No.06)- (Call-2)	59.85	59,900/-

Stipulated period of completion(in months) : 8 Months. **Category:** ST

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP portal of GOK from **03.07.2024 onwards.** 2) Pre-bid meeting: **05.07.2024 at 11.30 a.m.** 3) Tender closing date: **12.07.2024 upto 4:00 p.m.** 4) Technical bid opening date: **15.07.2024 at 4.30 p.m.** 5) Financial bids opening date: **After approval of Technical bid.**

Further details can be had from the office of the above during office hours on all working days or from the KPP portal website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Senior Asst. Director of Horticulture, Yelahanka Zone, BBMP

E-TENDER NOTICE NO.02/2024-2025
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Executive Engineer, Integrated Unit (Medical)
Public Works, Near T.B. Ward Premises, Nagpur.-440003.
email:-integratednagpur.ee@mahapwd.gov.in
Web site:- www.mahapwd.com

Online Percent Rate Tenders (e-tender) in B-1/B-2 form By the Executive Engineer, Integrated Unit (Medical) Public Works, Nagpur. Ph. No. (0712)2744387 Email:-integratednagpur.ee@mahapwd.com for The Following Work from registered contractor of appropriate class of Public Works Department Maharashtra State. On Government of Maharashtra Electronic Tender Management System https://maharashtra.etenders.in Month

Tender Notice No. 02/2024-2025 The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Maharashtra e-Tendering Portal **https://mahatenders.gov.in**

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost in (Lakh.)	Earnest Money in (Lakh.)	Time limit for completion
1	2	3	4	5
1	Construction of 08 Nos. Waiting shed in the premises of GMCH Nagpur	9,94,77,000/-	4,98,000/-	12 Month
2	Construction of Connecting Bridge at IGGMCH Nagpur. (2nd Call)	1,00,00,000/-	1,00,000/-	12 Month

1) Detailed tender notice can be seen on web site **www.mahapwd.com** and **https://mahatenders.gov.in**
2) Detailed tender notice can be seen on the Notice Board in the office of the undersigned.
3) In the Tender Notice, Tender downloading, Tender opening etc. information available on web side.
4) Right is reserved to reject any or all tender without assigning any reasion thereof.

Sd/-
(V. S. Ghushe)
Executive Engineer,
Integrated Unit (Medical)
Public Works, Nagpur

DGIPR/2024/2025/554
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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MONIKA Bheru Singh Jain, R/a No.22/1, MGK Murthy Layout, 6th Main Road, Chamarajapet, Bangalore-560018 have changed my name to Monika Jain vide affidavit dt: 29.06.2024 sworn before Notary K.V.Mani, B'luru.

I, LAVANYA Menon, D/o Ramakrishnan Menon, R/o Room No.202, II nd floor, Kaushik Pinnacle Building, Taluk Office Road, Karkal, Karkala, Udupi, Karnataka-574104, have change my name to Lavanya Sushrruta Menon for all future purposes vide affidavit dt: 01.07.2024 sworn before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar, B'lore

I, RAJAN Menon, S/o Ramakrishna Menon, R/o 406, Mahaveer Jade Apartments, Sanappa layout, Kodichikkanahalli, Bangalore South, PO: Bannerghatta Road, Dist: Bengaluru, Karnataka-560076, have changed my name to Raajan Upkoshir Menon for all furture purposes vide affidavit dt: 01.07.2024 sworn before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar, B'lore

I, NEHA Shetty, D/O Pavoorguttu Vishwanath Shetty, W/O Arvind Sunder Shetty Age 44 Years, Address: 770, 11th Main, Vijayabank Layout, Belikahalli, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore 560076 have changed my name from Neha Vishwanath Shetty to Neha Shetty vide affidavit dated 01.07.2024 before Notary C.V. Erappa Bengaluru-560016

LOST & FOUND

FURTHER TO notice in this paper dated Mar 30 2024 I, Sujatha Gopalkrishna w/o T M Gopalkrishna residing at 2607, 5th Main, KS Layout 2nd Stage Bangalore have lost documents of Property ID 55–360–2404 as stated below pertaining to Vacant Site # 2404, 18th Main Road, 2nd Stage, KS Layout Bangalore while travelling. Mother deed from BDA in Favour of B V Radha Doc # 12634/02–03 Absolute sale deed B V Radha to A L Satish Kumar Doc # 1736/03–04 Absolute sale deed A L Satish Kumar to R Krishnappa Setty Doc # 6057/03–04 Possession Certificate PCR No. 4/02–03 Allotment Letter Dated 27.06.1994 If found please contact nearest police station or call 9880825082/ 9900766997

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, N.BHAVANI, R/at No.101, Lakshith Golden Nest Apartment, 2nd Floor, 11th Main, 9th Block, Near Bande Maramma Park, Nagarabavi 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560072, have changed my name from N.Bhavani to Gurram Bhavani vide affidavit dated 01/07/2024 before Notary M.Rajendra, Bangalore.

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF XVII METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE SAIDAPET, CHENNAI. C.C.No.3155 of 2016

R.S.Suriya
rep. by his Manager & Power of Attorney Agent, Mr.N.Vivekanandan
...Complainant
.....Vs.....
S.Vijay
Son of Late K.Sukumar
... Accused

Sir,
Sub : Before the Hon'ble XVII Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Saidapet, Chennai-C.C.No.3155 of 2016 - R.S.Suriya, represented by his Agent, N.Vivekanandan vs. S.Vijay - Reg.

The complaint bearing C.C.No.3155 of 2016came up for hearing on 20th June 2024 before the Hon'ble XVII Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Saidapet, Chennai. The Hon'ble Judge has ordered notice by way of newspaper publication to the accused person, namely, S.Vijay. Please take notice and be present before the Hon'ble XVII Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Saidapet, Chennai, on 25th July 2024 at 10.30 AM, failing which,the Hon'ble Court shall pass suitable order/s to compel/secure your presence before the Hon'ble Court, including issuance of a warrant.

M/s. R & P Partners
Counsel for Complainant
Date : 02/07/2024

IN THE COURT OF THE IInd ADDL CITY CIVIL JUDGE, AT BANGALORE (CCH-17) ORIGINAL SUIT NO. 6431 OF 2018

BETWEEN: Smt. Shanthamma, Aged about 53 years, W/o.Late Chandrappa Reddy, D/o Late. Malla Reddy, R/at No.482, 2nd Cross, Navodaya Road, Near Someshwara Temple, Marathahalli, Bangalore- 560037. ...Plaintiff

AND : Smt. Sarojamma & others ..Defendants

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANTS (4) to (6) UNDER ORDER 5 RULE 20 OF CPC:

4. Sri. Ashok Reddy, Aged about 33 years, S/o.Late Umesh Reddy, R/a No.15, Annaiah Reddy Layout, Behind Mayuri Sagar Hotel, ITPL Main Road, Kundalahalli, Doddanekkundi Post, Bangalore- 560037.

5. Smt. Kanthamma, Aged about 55 years, W/o.Late Balappa Reddy, C/o. Mohan Babu.B 1st Cross, Dandu Road, Kuppaswamy Mudaliar Layout, Near VBR Kalyana Mantapa Bangarapet-563114

6. The Special Land Acquisition Officer, KIADB (International Airport) Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bangalore - 560001.

Whereas the above named Plaintiff has instituted Original Suit against the Defendants seeking for partition & such other reliefs. in respect of below mentioned properties, Notice is hereby given to you to appear before the Court of City Civil Judge Bangalore (CCH-17), either in person or through a pleader **on 19-08-2024 at 11.00 a.m,** to answer the same, failing which the suit will be heard and determined ex-parte.

SCHEDULE

ITEM NO.1: All that piece and parcel of land bearing Sy. No. 25/2, measuring 1 Acre and 5 Guntas in extent, situated at Kundalahalli Village, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, formerly Bangalore South Taluk, and bounded on: **East by:** Raghuram Reddy's Property: **West by:** Gopalappa's Property: **North by**: Raghuram Reddy's Property; **South by:** Ramaiah Reddy's Property.

ITEM NO.2: All that piece and parcel of residential property bearing No.34 (Old No.46), measuring 110 Feet x 26 Feet, situated at Kundalahalli Village, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, formerly Bangalore South Taluk, and bounded on: **East by :** Radha's D/o.Muniyamma, Krishna Reddy S/o. Nagappa Reddy's property: **West by:**Chandra Reddy's Property: **North by:** Ashwath Reddy S/o.Nagappa: Reddy's Property: **South by:**Krishna Reddy S/o. Nagappa Reddy's Property.

ITEM NO.3: All that piece and parcel of residential property bearing No. 15 (Old No. 26), measuring 26 Feet x 10 Feet, situated at Kundalahalli Village, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, formerly Bangalore South Taluk, and bounded on: **East by :** Private Property; **West by :** Lakshminarayan Reddy's Property; **North by:** Keshav Reddy's Property; **South by:** Passage (Road).

Given under my hand and seal of this Hon'ble Court **on 22-06-2024.**

By order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, City civil court, at Bangalore

Address of Advocate
R. CHANDRASHEKAR,
Law Park Associates,
No. 13 & 14, Ground Floor, Gold Tower, Residency Road, Bangalore- 560025.

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल संख्या–1, धनबाद

शुद्धि–पत्र

पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल सं.1, धनबाद के अन्तर्गत ई–प्रोक्यूरमेन्ट निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या– DHANBAD-1/OandM/03/2024-25 जिसका सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग के PR No.- 326496 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 24-25 है, में निम्नलिखित संशोधन संसूचित किया जाता है।

क्र.	पूर्व में प्रकाशित सूचना	संशोधित सूचना
1	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय : 19.06.2024, 4.00 बजे अपराह्न तक।	03.07.2024, 4.00 बजे अपराह्न तक।
2	निविदा प्राप्ति (ऑन लाईन बिडींग) की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय : 01.07.2024, 5.00 बजे अपराह्न तक।	15.07.2024, 5.00 बजे अपराह्न तक।
3	प्री बीड मीटिंग की तिथि एवं समय: 25.06.2024, 11.30 बजे पूर्वाह्न	09.07.2024, 11.30 बजे पूर्वाह्न
4	सरकार के सचिव, सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी एवं ई– गवर्नेस,झारखण्ड मंत्रालय, के ज्ञापांक 120 दिनांक 03.10.2023 के आलोक में विपत्र का मूल्य एवं अग्रधन की राशि Online जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय : 01.07.2024, 5.00 बजे अपराह्न तक।	15.07.2024, 5.00 बजे अपराह्न तक।
5	तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय: 02.07.2024, 03.00 बजे अपराह्न	16.07.2024, 5.00 बजे अपराह्न

शेष सभी शर्तें यथावत रहेगी।

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल संख्या–1, धनबाद

PR 328281 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 24-25 (D)

Government of Maharashtra,
Water Resources Department.
Superintending Engineer, Mechanical Circle, Pune.
Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division, Solapur.
Budgetary Offer Notice. 05 Dt-25/06/2024.
e-mail - eemdsolapur@gmail.com

The Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division, (Water Resources Department) Solapur is inviting Budgetary Offer from the reputed Manufacturer of submerged centrifugal vertical motor Pump with allied Electro-Mechanical Equipments for Anala Lift Irrigation Scheme, Dist.- Solapur Maharashtra Maharashtra State. The intended Bidder may submit his Offer by e-mail or in the form of Hard Copy on given respective address.

The Offer shall reach or receivable within 10 Days from the date of Publication. The details of the total work to be carried out is available on below mentioned link.

Sr.No.	Name of Work	Approx. Remark	Cost
1	Budgetary Offer are invited from the reputed Manufacturer for the Supply, Rs. (To Reputed Erection, Testing and Commissioning of Pumping Machinery for **Anala Lift Irrigation Scheme, Dist.- Solapur Maharashtra** State with allied electro-Mechanical Equipments The details of work to be carried out is mentioned on Water Resources Department, Gov. of Maharashtra by visiting the Link below- https://wrd.maharashtra.gov.in/Upload/PDF/Anala%20budgetary%20offer%202024.pdf	Rs. (To be filled)	Reputed Manufacturer of V-T Pumps

No. EE/M.D.Solapur/ TS 3 /BO/ 05/2024
Date: 25/06/2024

Office copy signed by E.E.

-Sd/-
Dy Executive Engineer
Mechanical Division
Solapur

DGIPR/2024/2025/550

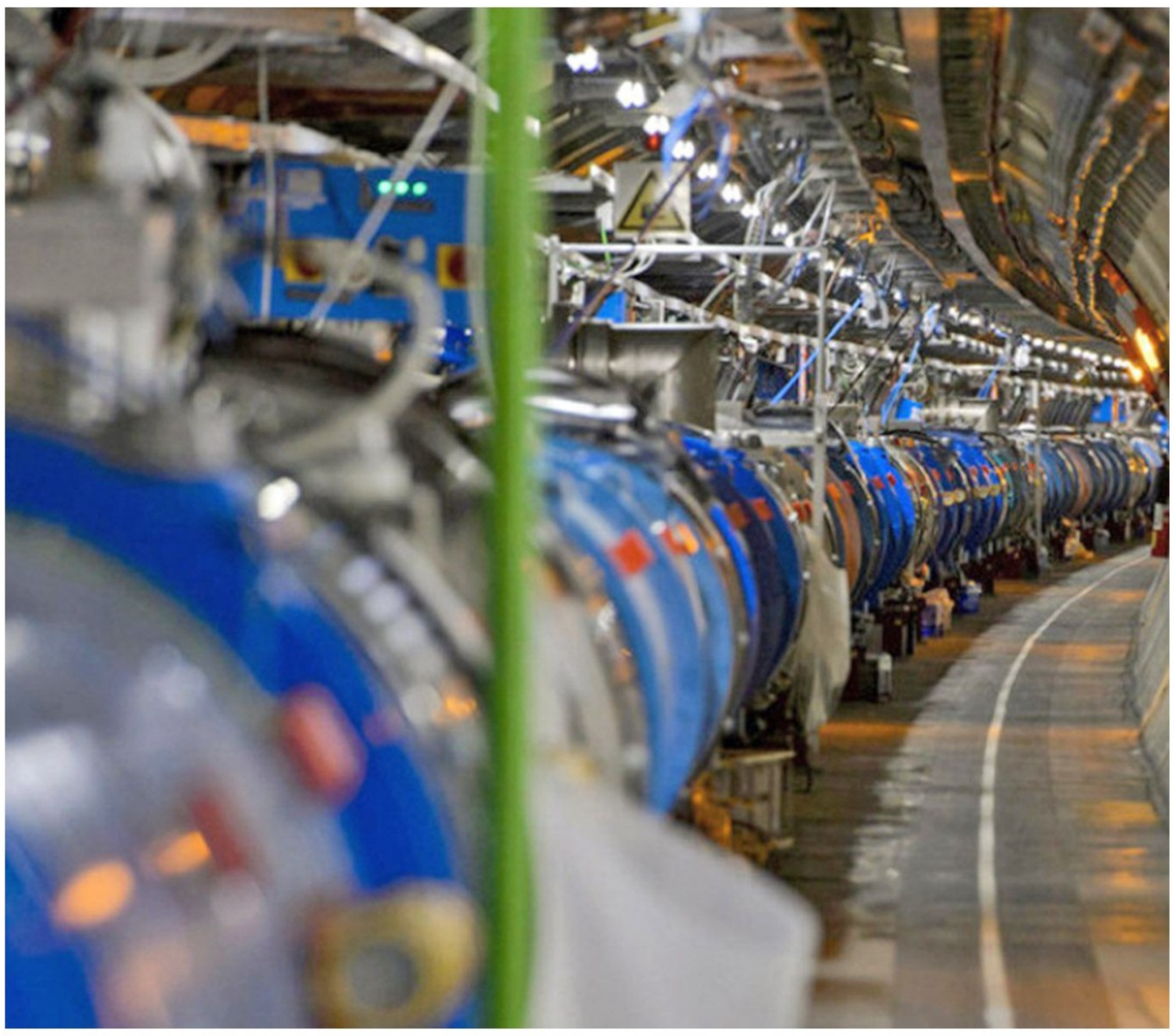
Why are scientists looking for the Higgs boson's best friend?

The top quark is the universe's heaviest elementary particle. Each one weighs three-times as much as a copper atom. Its high mass implies that of all elementary particles, it interacts most strongly with the Higgs boson particle — and this makes physicists wonder whether our universe is unstable

Vasudevan Mukunth

Scientists at the world's largest physics experiment have reported the most precise measurement yet of the most massive subatomic particle we know. The finding sounds esoteric but it wouldn't be an understatement to say it has implications for the whole universe.

The Greek philosopher Empedocles surmised 2,400 years ago that matter could be broken up into smaller and smaller pieces until we're left with air, earth, fire, and water. Since the early 20th century, physicists have broken up matter into smaller and smaller pieces to find many different subatomic particles instead – as many as to fill a zoo.



A tunnel inside the Large Hadron Collider during maintenance work. AFP

The top quark

Rather than a 'smaller' particle, contemporary particle physicists are concerned with elusive particles.

More energetic particles often break down into ones with less energy. The greater the difference in energy between that of a particle and the products of its decay, the less time the particle exists in its original form and more quickly it breaks down. By the mass-energy equivalence, a more massive particle is also a more energetic particle. And the most massive particle scientists have found to date is the top quark.

It is 10-times heavier than a water molecule, about three-times as much as a copper atom, and 95% as much as a full caffeine molecule.

As a result, the top quark is so unstable that it could break up into lighter, more stable particles in less than 10^{-25} seconds.

The top quark's mass is very important in physics. A particle's mass is equal to the sum of masses contributed from multiple sources. An important source for all elementary particles is the Higgs field, which pervades the entire universe. A "field" is like a sea of energy and excitations in the field are called particles. This way, for example, an excitation of the Higgs field is called the Higgs boson just as an electron can be considered to be an excitation of an 'electron field'.

All these fields engage with each other in specific ways. When the 'electron field' interacts with the Higgs field at energies much less than 100 GeV, for example, the electron particle will acquire some mass. The same thing goes for other elementary particles. (GeV, or giga-electron-volt, is a unit of energy used in the context of subatomic particles: 1 joule = 6.24 billion GeV.)

If the top quark is the most massive subatomic particle, it is because Higgs bosons interact most strongly with it. By measuring the top quark's mass as precisely as possible, then, physicists can learn a lot about the Higgs boson as well.

"Physicists are intrigued by the top quark mass as there is something peculiar about it," Nirmal Raj, particle theorist and assistant professor at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, told *The Hindu*. "On the one hand, it is the one closest to the Higgs boson's mass, which is what one would 'naturally' expect before measuring it. On the other, all other [particles like it] are much, much lighter, making one wonder if the top quark is actually an oddball, not a 'natural' species."

The universe as we know it

But the rabbit hole goes deeper.

Physicists are keen to study the Higgs boson also because of its own mass, which it acquires by interacting with other Higgs bosons. Importantly, the Higgs boson is more massive than expected – which is to say the Higgs field is more energy-laden than expected. And because it pervades the universe, the universe can be said to be more energetic than expected. This 'expectation' comes from calculations physicists have performed and they don't have reason to believe they are wrong. Why does the Higgs field have so much energy?

Physicists also have a theory as to how the Higgs field originally formed (at the birth of the universe). If they are right, there is a small yet non-zero chance that one day in future, the field could go through a sort of self-adjustment that reduces its energy and modifies the universe in drastic ways.

They know the field has some potential energy today and there is a way it could shed some of it to have less and become more stable. There are two ways to get to this stable state. One is for the field to gain some energy first before losing it and more, like climbing one side of a mountain to get into a deeper valley on the other side. The other is if an event called quantum tunnelling happens, whereby the field's potential energy would 'tunnel' through the mountain instead of having to climb over it and drop into the valley yonder.

> The Greek philosopher Empedocles surmised 2,400 years ago that matter could be broken up into smaller and smaller pieces until we're left with air, earth, fire, and water

This is why Stephen Hawking said in 2016 the Higgs boson could spell the "end of the universe" as we know it. Even if the Higgs field is slightly stronger than it is now, the atoms of most chemical elements will be destroyed, taking stars, galaxies, and earthlife with them. But while Hawking was technically correct, other physicists quickly said the frequency of the tunnelling event was 1 in 10^{100} years.

The Higgs boson's mass – 126 GeV/c^2 (a unit used for subatomic particles) – is also just about enough to keep the universe in its current state; anything else and the "end" would happen. Such a finely tuned value is obviously curious and physicists would like to know which natural processes contribute to it. The top quark is part of this picture by virtue of being the most massive particle, in a sense the Higgs boson's closest friend.

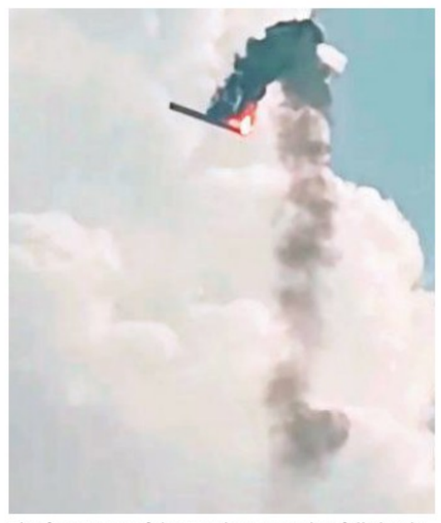
"Measuring the top quark mass precisely has implications for whether our universe will tunnel out of existence," Dr. Raj said.

Finding the top quark

Physicists discovered the top quark in 1995 at a particle accelerator in the US called the Tevatron, measuring its mass to be 151-197 GeV/c^2. The Tevatron was shut down in 2011; physicists continued to analyse data it had collected and updated the value three years later to 174.98 GeV/c^2. Other experiments and research groups yielded more precise values over time. On June 27, physicists at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) in Europe reported the most precise figure yet: 172.52 GeV/c^2.

Measuring a top quark's mass is difficult when its lifetime is around 10^{-25} seconds. Typically, a particle-smasher will produce an ultra-hot soup of particles. If a top quark is present in this soup, it will quickly decay into specific groups of lighter particles. Detectors look out for these events, and when they happen track and record their properties. Finally, computers collect this data and physicists analyse them to *reconstruct* the physical properties of the top quark.

Now researchers will incorporate the top quark's mass measurement into calculations that inform our understanding of our universe's particles. Some of them will use it to also quest for an even more precise value. According to Dr. Raj, precisely measuring the top quark's mass is also key to knowing whether some other particle with mass close to that of the top quark could be hiding in the data.



The first stage of the Tianlong-3 rocket falls back to earth. The smoke from its engine shows the stage's ascent trail following its accidental lift-off. YOUTUBE

Chinese rocket engine goes Awol during hot testing

Reuters

Beijing Tianbing Technology Co. said on Sunday that the first stage of its Tianlong-3 rocket under development had detached from its launch pad during a test due to a structural failure and landed in a hilly area of the city of Gongyi in central China.

There were no reports of casualties after an initial investigation, Beijing Tianbing, also known as Space Pioneer, said in a statement on its official WeChat account.

Parts of the rocket stage were scattered within a "safe area" but caused a local fire, according to a separate statement by the Gongyi emergency management bureau.

The fire has since been extinguished and no one has been hurt, the bureau said.

The two-stage Tianlong-3 (the name is Mandarin for "Sky Dragon") is a partly reusable rocket under development by Space Pioneer, one of a small group of private-sector rocket makers that have grown rapidly over the past five years.

Falling rocket debris in China after launches is not unheard of, but it is very rare anywhere in the world for part of a rocket under development to make an unplanned flight out of its test site and crash.

The two-stage Tianlong-3 is a partly reusable rocket under development by Space Pioneer, one of a small group of private-sector rocket makers that have seen rapid growth recently

According to Space Pioneer, the first stage of the Tianlong-3 ignited normally during a hot test but later detached from the test bench due to structural failure and landed in hilly areas 1.5 km away.

A hot test is one in which fuel is flowed into the rocket motor being tested and it is allowed to fire in conditions mimicking those during lift-off.

A rocket can consist of several stages, with the first, or lowest, stage igniting and propelling the rocket upwards upon its launch.

When the fuel is exhausted, the first stage falls off, and the second stage ignites, keeping the rocket in propulsion. Some rockets have third stages. India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) has four stages.

Space Pioneer says the performance of Tianlong-3 is comparable to SpaceX's Falcon 9, which is also a two-stage rocket.

In April 2023, Space Pioneer launched a kerosene-oxygen rocket, the Tianlong-2, becoming the first private Chinese firm to send a liquid-propellant rocket into space.

Chinese commercial space companies have rushed into the sector since 2014, when private investment in the industry was allowed by the state.

Many started making satellites while others including Space Pioneer, focused on developing reusable rockets that can significantly cut mission costs.

The test sites of such companies can be found along China's coastal areas, located by the sea due to safety reasons.

But some are also sited deep in the country's interior such as Space Pioneer's test centre in Gongyi, a city of 800,000 people in the central province of Henan.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Remembering the spectacular Tunguska event

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

On June 30, 115 years ago, a few people living in a remote part of Siberia saw a bright flash of light in the sky followed by a tremendous shockwave that scorched a swath of trees, and shattered windows and set things on fire hundreds of kilometres away. Name the Russian city over which a similar event occurred in February 2013.

QUESTION 2

The main witnesses of the Tunguska event were members of the area's Evenki tribe. After the event, they closely guarded the blast area because they believed it was caused by a deity named Agda. As a result, expeditions to the site were delayed by more than a decade. What is Agda the god of?

QUESTION 3

In 1921 and then in 1927, Russian scientist _____ _____ led an expedition to the blast site. Bad weather foiled the first attempt but the team succeeded the second time. His team discovered the blast hadn't produced a crater. Fill in the blanks.

QUESTION 4

Scientists believe today the Tunguska event was caused by an asteroid entering the earth's atmosphere and blowing up mid-air. What are asteroids called once they enter the atmosphere?

QUESTION 5

There used to be some debate about whether the Tunguska event was caused by an asteroid or a meteor. Nonetheless, the U.N. said in 2016 that June 30 would be celebrated as X. What is X?

Visual: In 2022, a NASA spacecraft deliberately slammed into the moon of this asteroid (depicted) to check if such a manoeuvre could be used to deflect asteroids from a destructive path towards the earth. Name the asteroid. NASA

Answers to June 25 quiz:

1. Programming language that C succeeded – **Ans: B**
2. C attribute that means it describes processes rather than outputs – **Ans: Imperative**
3. Dennis Ritchie's coauthor of 'The C Programming Language' – **Ans: Brian Kernighan**
4. American organisation that publishes C standards – **Ans: American National Standards Institute**
5. C description that means it loosely defines the types of terms – **Ans: Weakly typed**

Visual: **Ken Thompson**

First contact: Irfan Ali | Sandeep Sukhdeve | Anmol Agrawal | K.N. Viswanathan | Vikram Vicky

Visual: In 2022, a NASA spacecraft deliberately slammed into the moon of this asteroid (depicted) to check if such a manoeuvre could be used to deflect asteroids from a destructive path towards the earth. Name the asteroid. NASA

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

SIT gets two more days custody of Suraj

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Suraj Revanna

Suraj Revanna, JD(S) MLC, accused of allegedly sexually assaulting two men, on Monday was remanded in SIT custody till Wednesday.

The SIT produced Suraj before the 42nd Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) seeking five more days custody, citing that the accused was not cooperating with the investigation and that the investigating officials need to gather more evidence.

The accused was booked by the Holenarsipur police on June 22 under Sections 377 (unnatural offences), 342 (wrongful confinement), 506 (criminal intimidation) and 34 (acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) following a complaint by a party worker. Suraj was arrested on June 23 and was remanded in CID custody till July 1.

On June 21, a case was registered by Suraj's personal assistant Shivakumar, accusing the victim and his brother-in-law of attempting to extort money from the MLC.

Based on Shivakumar's complaint, the Holenarsipur Town police opened a case under Sections 384 (extortion), 506 (criminal intimidation) and 34 (involvement of others in the conspiracy) of the IPC.

The same man filed another complaint against Suraj claiming that he was sexually assaulted by the politician during the pandemic period.

A separate case was then registered under Sections 342 (wrongful confinement), 506 (criminal intimidation), 377 (unnatural offences) and 34 (common intention) of the IPC.

So far, the CID has held custodial interrogations and a spot mahazar (recreation of the crime scene). Suraj was also subjected to medical tests and his DNA samples were collected. A report is awaited.

Head constable held on murder charge under BNS

Till 8 p.m. on Monday, 63 FIRs were registered under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita across Karnataka; DG & IGP says all police officers have been trained to handle cases under new criminal laws

The Hindu Bureau
HASSAN/BENGALURU

A poster depicting the implementation of the three new criminal laws in New Delhi on Monday.PTI

Hours after the newly-introduced Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) was enforced on Monday, the Hassan police arrested a head constable for allegedly stabbing his wife to death on the SP's office premises. Till 8 p.m. on Monday, 63 FIRs were registered under the new law in Karnataka.

The police said that Lokanath, 40, head constable attached to the Gorur police station, allegedly stabbed Mamatha, 37, after she had come to the SP's office to file a complaint against him.

The police later tracked Lokanath and arrested him as the first case under Section 103 (whoever commits murder shall be punished with death or imprisonment for life, and shall also be liable to fine) of the BNS.

Meanwhile, Bengaluru South-East Division police registered two unnatural death cases under Section 194 of the BNS reported early on Monday.

The first case was reported in the HSR Layout police station limits based on a complaint by M. Sekar, a retired government employee from Tamil Nadu. The police have registered a case under Section 194 (police to enquire and report on suicide) under the BNS.

In his complaint, Mr. Sekhar said that his daughter Suganya, 32, was married to Rajkumar Murugesan, a software engineer, working in the U.S. The victim, who had a history of seizures and was under medication, collapsed while at home. She was rushed to a private hospital where the doctor declared her as brought dead.

Mr. Sekar complained to the police seeking a detailed investigation to ascertain the cause of death.

In a similar case, a 54-year-old man allegedly died by suicide at his house at Rajendranagar in Adugodi early on Monday. The deceased was identified as Elumalai.

According to a complaint, he was alcoholic and suffering from a serious illness. Based on the complaint by Manigandan E., son of the deceased, the police registered a case under Section 194 (police to enquire and report on suicide) under the BNS for further investigation.

Meanwhile, a 30-year-old constable, who was missing for many days, was found dead in a well in the Jnanbharathi police station limits on Monday. The police are now contemplating registering an unsnatural death case under Section 194 of the BNS.

The deceased was identified as Shivaraj, 30, from Uttarahall. According to the police, he was working with the Madiwala station since 2020 and was missing since June 25. His brother had filed a missing complaint with the Subramanyapura police.

Director-General and Inspector-General of Police Alok Mohan said that all police officers and staff across the State have been trained to handle cases under the BNS.

INBRIEF

Gang held on charge of murdering labourer

The Pulakeshinagar arrested a gang of five people for allegedly killing a 25-year-old construction labourer in Jeevanahalli recently.

The accused were identified as Arun Kumar, John Jacob, Andrews, Prashanth, and Sanjeev, residents of Jeevanahalli slum and working as daily wagers. According to the police, they used to fight with Vignesh Appu.

Vignesh had earlier allegedly assaulted Arun Kumar and John Jacob and a case was registered in Pulakeshinagar, following which Vignesh had shifted to Kurubarahalli in Mahalakshmi Layout. The police said that he used to visit his old area and confronted the accused near the railway track.

Heated arguments ensued, following which the accused allegedly overpowered Vignesh and stabbed him repeatedly with a knife before fleeing the spot.

The police tracked down the accused on Monday, charging them with murder, rioting and unlawful assembly for further investigation.

BEML appoints Debi Prasad Satpathy as Director of HR

BEML Ltd. on Monday announced the appointment of Debi Prasad Satpathy as the Director HR, following his selection by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) panel in March. Mr. Satpathy was serving as the Executive Director-HR at BEML Ltd.
Welcoming him, Chairman and Managing Director of BEML Shantanu Roy said: "With over three decades of experience in human resources, Mr. Satpathy has led initiatives in HR and CSR that have significantly contributed to the company's growth and productivity. I am sure that he will continue to lead BEML Ltd. in a progressive direction ahead."

E-paper edition

The Hindu offers more coverage of Bengaluru in the e-paper edition. (epaper.thehindu.com)

In the issue dated July 2, we have an interview with Vijay Padaki Trustee Emeritus at the Bangalore Little Theatre (BLT). With his 63 years of association with the BLT, Vijay talks about BLT's evolution over the years, the origins of English theatre in Bengaluru, and his thoughts on the current theatre landscape.

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (July 2, Tuesday), the following articles are available:

- Will the Hosur airport become a reality? **bit.ly/hosurairport**
- Why are scientists looking for the Higgs boson's closest friend? **bit.ly/higgsbosonscience**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Bitcoin scam: Convict writes to SIT seeking probe against police official

A file photo of the Hindalga prison in Belagavi.

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

A convict at the Hindalga prison in Belagavi has written to the Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the bitcoin scam, requesting it to investigate a senior official for allegedly transferring bitcoins from hacker Srikrishna Ramesh aka Sriki and allegedly collecting gold bars.

The letter, written on June 11, accessed by *The Hindu*, shows that the convict, identified as Nagendra, addressed it to SIT chief Manish Karbikar, alleging that Deputy Inspector-General (North), Prisons, T.P. Shesha, along with other officials, assaulted him and warned him against revealing details about the transaction.

He also alleged that on January 16, 2021, Mr. Shesha, who was then DIG (South), with the help of prison staff, illegally supplied a laptop to Sriki to transfer the coins, and bitcoins worth ₹20 crore were transferred to the digital wallet of a prison inmate who is the son of popular jewellery shop owner and a friend of Sriki.

After he wrote the letter, Additional Inspector-General (AIG) Anand Reddy visited the prison on June 26. While the prisoner has given a statement about the alleged harassment, he insisted that statements in connection to bitcoin will be given only to the SIT.

The convict on June 29 again wrote a letter to the SIT chief asking him to record the statement.

Meanwhile, on June 19 the State Human Rights Commission wrote to the Director-General of Police (DGP), Prisons, instructing him to investigate the allegations and and submit the report before September 10.

Meanwhile, Mr. Shesha, speaking to *The Hindu*, termed the allegations "false and baseless". He said: "I have now written to the prison DGP saying that the allegations are false and some people are conspiring against me."

$2.50 for a space odyssey, as U.S. firm offers to ferry Indian astronaut

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Citizens from across the world will be offered six seats on a future mission of New Shepard, which is the reusable sub-orbital rocket of Blue Origin. FILE PHOTO

U.S.-based Space Exploration and Research Agency (SERA), in collaboration with Jeff Bezos-funded Blue Origin, has announced India as a partner nation in their human spaceflight programme for citizens from countries who have sent few, or no, astronauts to space.

On Monday, SERA announced that it will offer citizens from across the world six seats on a future mission of New Shepard, which is the reusable sub-orbital rocket of Blue Origin.

New Shepard will fly the selected astronauts on an 11-minute journey past the Kármán line (100 km), the internationally recognised boundary of space. Astronauts will experience several minutes of weightlessness before making a controlled descent back to the landing pad.

"We're excited to have India as part of our human space flight programme. India has achieved remarkable milestones in its space journey the past few years, including becoming the first country to reach the southern pole of the Moon. We want to make space accessible for everyone, and are happy to offer this unique opportunity to an Indian citizen who wants to experience the wonders of space travel," said Joshua Skurla, co-founder of SERA.

Who can register?

Any Indian citizen can register for the programme by paying a fee of ~$2.50 to cover the cost of verification checks that ensure safe and fair voting. The final candidate will be voted for by the public for an opportunity to fly to space on board the New Shepard mission.

"Our mission is to democratise space by enabling citizens from over 150 countries with limited access to space to participate in ground-breaking research and create history. Our aim is to empower people globally to have a voice and stake in the future of space exploration," added Joshua Skurla.

Process of voting

SERA added that the potential astronauts will be required to meet the physical requirements laid down by Blue Origin.

They can garner votes by telling their story to the public, using their mission profile pages, social media, and other resources.

Voting will progress through candidate elimination across three phases. The public will vote only for candidates from their nation or region, except for the sixth global seat.

"By giving communities the power to choose their astronauts, we ensure this mission is driven by people, for people. This approach will ignite national conversations on space and foster international collaboration in space exploration. The minimal physical requirements and training for New Shepard's flight lowers the barrier to entry by allowing more diverse participation in space," said Sam Hutchison, co-founder of SERA.

The six persons chosen for the mission will arrive three days prior to the flight for training at Blue Origin's launch site in West Texas, U.S.A.

Pension order letters distributed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), in collaboration with the Regional Provident Fund Office, on Monday distributed pension order letters under the 'Prayaas' scheme, to over 100 employees of the corporation who completed 58 years.

Transport Minister

Minister for Transport and Muzrai Ramalinga Reddy issued the letters for pension facilities, in the presence of Ramachandran R., Managing Director, BMTC; Shilpa M., Director (IT), BMTC; Nandinidevi K., Director (P&V), KSRTC; T. Indira, Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, and senior officials of the corporation., according to a press release.

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, JUL. 02	
RISE 05:58	SET 18:50
RISE 02:22	SET 15:32
WEDNESDAY, JUL. 03	
RISE 05:58	SET 18:50
RISE 03:12	SET 16:32
THURSDAY, JUL. 04	
RISE 05:58	SET 18:50
RISE 04:07	SET 17:33

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	26
Mysuru	27	22
Bengaluru	27	22

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather conditions will be dry. Day will be slight warm with cloudy sky. Night will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C The day will be slight warm with cloudy sky. Short spell of light rain or thundershower with gusty winds will occur at evening hours.

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THE HINDU
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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The share of Kaziranga which is submerged in the Assam floods

43 in per cent. With worsening flood conditions in Assam, rising water levels have impacted 101 of the 233 forest camps at Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve, according to a flood report. PTI

Market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms hit lifetime high

443 in ₹ lakh crore. The market capitalisation (Mcap) of BSE-listed firms hit a lifetime high, driven by a rebound in equities, where the benchmark Sensex ended at a new all-time peak. PTI

The increase in Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) price

1.2 in per cent. ATF price was hiked by ₹1,179 per kl to ₹96,148 per kl in Delhi in line with international oil price trends, according to a price notification of State-owned fuel retailers. PTI

The rainfall deficit recorded in the month of June in India

11 in per cent. India received 147.2 mm of rainfall against a normal of 165.3 mm for the month. June rainfall accounts for 15% of the total precipitation of 87 cm recorded during the monsoon season in the country. PTI

Number of deaths in violent attacks in Pakistan: CRSS

380 About 240 terror incidents and counter-terror operations were reported between April to June in Pakistan. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Will the Hosur airport become a reality?

What are the challenges and obstacles to the Hosur airport project proposed by the Tamil Nadu government? Why is the project being proposed for Hosur? How can an airport gain clearance from the Civil Aviation Ministry? What is the process to be followed?

EXPLAINER

Sanjay Vijayakumar

The story so far:

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin announced in the legislative assembly plans for setting up an international airport on 2,000 acres of land, with the capacity to handle three crore passengers annually, in the industrial town of Hosur, which is 40 kms away from Bengaluru. While the airport has been a long standing demand of the industrialists in the area, one of the hurdles is that the concession agreement signed between the Centre and the Bangalore International Airport Ltd (BIAL), the operator of Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru, does not allow for new or existing airports (except for Mysore and Hassan airports) within an aerial distance of 150 kms before 2033.

What is the significance of Hosur?

Hosur in Krishnagiri district is located on the border of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Hosur is situated at 3,000 metres above sea level and according to a report by online publisher Visual Capitalist in 2021, it was ranked 13 in the world among the list of cities with the fastest population growth with an annual growth rate of 5.38%. Hosur has emerged as a flourishing industrial town with prominent companies such as Tata Electronics, TVS, Ashok Leyland, Titan, and Rolls-Royce (IAMPL) establishing significant operations in the area. It has emerged as a nucleus for auto and electric vehicle manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, logistics and electronics. The industrial town is also strong in traditional sectors like floriculture and horticulture. Estimates suggest that around 3,000 MSMEs are present in the region, engaged in engineering fabrication, tooling, and polishing, among others.

The State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited (SIPCOT), the State government's nodal agency to promote industrial infrastructure, has established industrial parks in Hosur in two phases spread over 2,093 acres. SIPCOT is currently in the process of acquiring land of 3,382.84 acres for expanding and setting up new industrial parks in the region. Private industrial parks have also come up in the region. To meet the water requirement of the industries located in the Hosur area, SIPCOT is establishing a 20 megalitres per day Tertiary Treatment Reverse Osmosis (TTRO) plant at Kelavarapalli, which is expected to be completed by September.

According to Tamil Nadu Industries Minister T.R.B Rajaa, the airport project in Hosur will enhance connectivity and stimulate economic growth, benefiting not only Hosur but also neighbouring districts such as Dharmapuri and Salem. He has also pointed out that the new airport will foster a twin-city ecosystem with Bengaluru, propelling growth in both Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

ISTOCKPHOTO

What about the previous plan?

Hosur airport is owned by Taneja Aerospace and Aviation Limited. In 2023, replying to a question by Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) Rajya Sabha MP P. Wilson, the then Union Minister of State for Civil Aviation General (retired) V.K. Singh said in the first round of bidding under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)- Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN), a bid was received for the routes Chennai-Hosur-Chennai and due to the concession agreement with BIAL the route was not awarded and Hosur airport was deleted from UDAN document for future round of bidding.

What does the Union Civil Aviation Ministry's guidelines state?

As per the present guidelines of the Civil Aviation Ministry, the regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) while granting licence to operate a greenfield airport should take into account that no greenfield airport would be allowed within an aerial distance of 150 kms of an existing civilian airport. In case a greenfield airport is proposed to be set up within 150 kms of an existing civilian airport, the impact on the existing airport would be examined and such cases would be decided by the government on a case to case basis. Such an application shall be first considered by the Steering Committee, headed by the Secretary of Civil Aviation. After considering the application, the Steering Committee shall make a suitable recommendation to the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The Ministry shall place the matter before the Union Cabinet for its consideration and the DGCA would grant a licence only after their approval.

In 2017, the Centre granted in-principle approval for a greenfield airport at Jewar in Greater Noida based on the recommendations of the Steering Committee on Greenfield Airports. The Noida International Airport is located 72 kms from the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport, Delhi and 65 kms from the Hindon Air Force station Ghaziabad. The Centre said the airport in Delhi NCR region will help decongest the IGI Airport and will serve the people of Delhi, Noida, Ghaziabad, Aligarh, Agra, and Faridabad.

What next?

Airport projects have a long gestation period to come on stream. Given that the DMK government is part of the Opposition alliance, it has to negotiate hard with the Centre to get the necessary relaxation in norms for setting up the airport, besides other regulatory and environmental clearances. Setting up the necessary supporting infrastructure for the airport is another challenge which needs to be overcome.

THE GIST

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin announced plans for setting up an international airport on 2,000 acres of land, with the capacity to handle three crore passengers annually, in the industrial town of Hosur, which is 40 kms away from Bengaluru.
- As per the present guidelines of the Civil Aviation Ministry, no greenfield airport would be allowed within an aerial distance of 150 kms of an existing civilian airport.
- Given that the DMK government is part of the Opposition alliance, it has to negotiate hard with the Centre to get the necessary relaxation in norms for setting up the airport.

What is on the agenda for the 16th Finance Commission?

How do other countries devolve funds to their local governments? Why is the Census significant?

Tikender Singh Panwar

The story so far:

The 16th Finance Commission (FC) has begun its work, established under Article 280 of the Indian Constitution, primarily focusing on the devolution of the consolidated fund. Since the 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments, local bodies have gained significant recognition within the federal system. These amendments introduced sub-clauses 280 (3) (bb) and (c), which mandate the FC to recommend measures to augment State consolidated funds for supporting panchayats and municipalities.

What about cities?

The National Commission on Urbanisation in the mid-80s described cities as "engines of growth." Although this view is somewhat narrow, the reality is that cities contribute around 66% of India's GDP and about 90% of total government revenues. Cities, thus, are an important spatial zone for the overall development of the country. However, our economic scale is insufficient to meet rising needs. The World Bank estimates that $840 billion is needed for basic urban infrastructure in the next decade.

Despite the efforts of five commissions since the 11th Finance Commission, financial devolution to cities remain inadequate. The fiscal health of municipalities is poor, affecting both city productivity and quality of life. Rapid urbanisation without appropriate fiscal action has adverse effects on development. Intergovernmental transfers (IGTs) to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in India are about 0.5% of GDP, much lower than the 2-5% typical of other developing nations. For instance, South Africa allocates 2.6%, Mexico 1.6%, the Philippines 2.5%, and Brazil 5.1% of their GDPs to their cities. Although IGTs make up about 40% of ULBs' total revenue, issues persist regarding their predictability, earmarking for vulnerable groups, and horizontal equity. IGTs are crucial for ULBs, given their financial state and the need for stable support until their own revenues improve.

What about the taxation system?

The introduction of the Goods and Service Tax (GST) has reduced ULBs' tax revenue (excluding property tax) from about 23% in 2012-13 to around 9% in 2017-18. IGTs from States to ULBs are very low, with State Finance Commissions recommending only about 7% of States' own revenue in 2018-19. Increasing the quantum of IGTs as a percentage of GDP is necessary. Despite the 74th constitutional amendment's aim to financially strengthen ULBs, progress over three decades has fallen short.

The 13th Finance Commission observed that "parallel agencies and bodies are emasculating local governments both financially and operationally." Local governments require support from Union and State governments through funds, functionaries, and technical aid. However, the growth of parallel agencies has distorted local governments' roles. Programs like the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme and the Member of Legislative Assembly Local Area Development Scheme exacerbate this issue, distorting the federal structure.

How important is the Census?

In the absence of the 2021 Census, reliance on 2011 data is inadequate for evidence-based fiscal devolution. India has approximately 4,000 statutory towns and an equal number of Census towns, with an estimated 23,000 villages, all of which are effectively urban. These figures must be captured by the 16th FC, including the significant migration to Tier-2 and 3 cities.

Thus, the 15th FC's nine guiding principles require a revisit. Not all of them but reference to enhancement in property tax collection in tandem to the State's GST; maintenance of accounts; resource allocation for mitigating pollution; focus on primary health care, solid waste management, drinking water, etc., deserve attention. The 16th FC must consider India's urbanisation dynamism and ensure IGTs to urban areas are at least doubled. A McKinsey Global Institute report warns that if India continues investing in urban infrastructure at current rates, urban infrastructure will fall short, leading to water supply issues and untreated sewage.

Author is former Deputy Mayor, Shimla, and Member, Kerala Urban Commission.

THE GIST

- Despite the efforts of five commissions since the 11th Finance Commission, financial devolution to cities remain inadequate. The fiscal health of municipalities is poor, affecting both city productivity and quality of life.
- The 13th Finance Commission observed that "parallel agencies and bodies are emasculating local governments both financially and operationally."
- The 16th FC must consider India's urbanisation dynamism and ensure IGTs to urban areas are at least doubled.

KSE says BJP has invited him to return to party

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

K.S. Eshwarappa

Former Minister K.S. Eshwarappa, who was expelled from the BJP after he contested as an Independent candidate in the Lok Sabha polls, has said he has been invited to rejoin the BJP. However, he is yet to respond to the invitation.

At a press conference in Shivamogga on Monday, Mr. Eshwarappa said he had been invited, but he did not disclose who extended the invitation. " I will discuss with my well-wishers and followers and take a decision," he said.

Asked if his son K.E. Kanthesh was an aspirant of the BJP ticket to contest the Shiggaon Assembly segment bypoll, necessitated following the resignation of Basavaraj Bommai who was elected to Lok Sabha, Mr. Eshwarappa said there was no such development.

Mr. Eshwarappa, who was upset with the BJP after his son was denied the party ticket to contest for the Haveri Lok Sabha seat, contested the Shivamogga Lok Sabha seat as an Independent candidate and lost.

He opined that the Congress leaders had been misusing the seers of mutts for their own politics. "We have high regard for religious heads. Nobody should use them for political gain. The change in the CM's post is an internal affair of the Congress. Let them decide within their four walls," he said.

Regarding housing projects at Govindapura and Gopishetty Koppa in Shivamogga, Mr. Eshwarappa said work had been going on at a snail's pace. "Housing Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan should visit Shivamogga by July 15 and resolve the issue."

Karnataka considers amending new criminal laws at State level

'Centre should defer implementation of the laws until it includes State govt. recommendations'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil

Opposing the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and two other legislations that came into force from Monday, Karnataka is considering introducing amendments at the State level to change the new criminal laws.

Revealing this at a press conference on Monday, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil said the Central government should defer the implementation of the new criminal laws until it included the recommendations suggested by the State government last year.

Stating that any government that makes a law has the moral right to enforce it during its tenure, Mr. Patil said implementing it after the government's tenure is over is an unethical and politically inappropriate move.

"Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had written to the Central government explaining the recommendations of the State government. The Centre has not considered a majority of them," he said. Mr. Siddaramaiah had written to Union Home Minister Amit Shah in October last year with 23 suggestions for changes in BNS, Bharatiya Nagarika Nyaya Sanhita (BNNS), and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) Bills. The recommendations were based on an expert committee.

"If the Centre does not heed the State's request to defer the implementation of these laws that have been promulgated ignoring public opinion and the suggestion of the legal luminaries, Karnataka will make use of the Constitutional provisions to enact amendments," Mr. Patil said.

Asserting that the State government is empowered to amend the new laws, Mr. Patil said: "While hunger strike against the government is an offence under this law, it is unfortunate that suicide is not a crime."

"We are mulling over amendments to provisions under BNS and other laws that criminalise hunger strikes. Another amendment is related to the definition of 'organised crime'. The definition of 'organised crime' in the new law is vague. Based on such unclear terms, the laws allow investigating agencies to make unilateral decisions," he said.

For cybercrimes, economic offences, investing in tax havens, and other tech-related crimes, the State government is considering introducing a separate chapter, the Minister said.

"The BSA allows police custody for 90 days, which is a violation of human rights. Amendments will be made to reduce the duration of police custody. The police, under the new laws, are empowered to seize the properties of those involved in criminal activities. An amendment will ensure that only courts are empowered to seize properties," he added.

On the Bengaluru city Police Commissioner's statement that the new laws will be implemented, Mr. Patil said: "As Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister, I am empowered to amend the new rules. Although cases are being booked under the new laws now, the police will have to follow the revised rules after the State amends it."

KUWSDB chief threatens to quit citing corruption

KUWSDB chairman and KPCC working president Vinay Kulkani with KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar at a press conference in Bengaluru on Monday. K. MURALI KUMAR

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Congress MLA and chairman of Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board (KUWSDB) Vinay Kulkarni on Monday alleged rampant corruption in awarding tender works in government-owned boards/corporations and threatened to resign from the post of chairman, opposing Urban Development Minister Byrathi Suresh's interference in KUWSDB.

Speaking to reporters after the KPCC office-bearers' meeting here, Mr. Kulkarni, who is also KPCC working president, told reporters that Ministers have not been positively responding to legislators' petitions and are not making efforts to contain corruption in the boards and corporations.

He alleged that even Ministers, including Mr. Suresh, have been awarding contract works to 'golmaal' companies and blacklisted "good" companies.

Taking note of the alleged multi-crore corruption in the Karnataka Valmiki ST Welfare Development Corporation, Mr. Kulkarni said he has informed the Chief Minister and senior leaders to take action on the corruption in KUWSDB.

Monsoon session of legislature from July 15 to 26

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government has decided to conduct the monsoon session of the State legislature from July 15 to 26, said Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil on Monday.

He said the government had recommended to Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot to convene the monsoon session from July 15 to 26 following a decision taken in the State Cabinet on June 20. The Cabinet had authorised Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to finalise the dates, he said.

The previous session was held in February, prior to the Lok Sabha elections, for a period of 15 days, during which Mr. Siddaramaiah presented the State Budget.

High Court grants bail to Devaraje Gowda

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Monday granted bail to advocate and BJP leader G. Devaraje Gowda in a sexual assault case registered against him in Holenarsipur police station in Hassan district.

Mr. Gowda was arrested in May and was subjected to custodial interrogation by the police.

Before his arrest, Mr. Gowda claimed that he possessed videos and photos related to former Janata Dal (S) MP Prajwal Revanna, who is accused of sexually abusing at least three women.

However, when video clips and photos purportedly related to Mr. Prajwal went viral through pen drives and messaging apps, Mr. Gowda claimed that the Congress leaders were behind the act and that Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar had offered him ₹100 crore and sent an "advance" of ₹5 crore for the videos.

HC deprecates trend of public servants invoking political influence for transfers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Observing that the act of public servants using political influence is a matter of deprecation, the High Court of Karnataka said that political interference in service matters is undesirable, to say the least, as such interference brings in irrelevant factors affecting public administration and the interest of the employer.

"These days, this court with a lot of penury at heart has been observing employees invoking political influence *inter alia* in matters of transfer and posting, which essentially belong to the exclusive domain of the employer/competent authority, who has to take a call after adverting to a host of factors," observed a Division Bench.

The Bench made these observations while reserving a 2013 judgment of a single judge, who had set aside the decision of the Karnataka Food and Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd. (KFCSC), which in 2004 had compulsorily retired an employee for dereliction of duty.

One Veena M., who was working as junior assistant, was transferred from Bengaluru to Mangaluru in 2002. However, without reporting to duty as per the posting, she claimed medical leave but the health reason cited by her was found to be wrong by the medical board. Besides, she had also brought influence of a then MP for her posting. The KFCSC in 2004 compulsorily retired her from service citing her conduct and the appellate authority had upheld this decision. However, a single judge of the court directed the KFCSC to reinstate her to service without the benefit of back wages.

However, the Bench disagreed with the single judge's order while observing: "There may be some exceptional cases where a citizen complains to the elected representatives seeking minutes for favour. However, the act of public servants using political influence is a matter of deprecation and that may constitute a sole ground for declining relief in constitutional jurisdiction."

Major General V.T. Mathew takes charge as GOC for Karnataka, Kerala Sub Area

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Major General V.T. Mathew *(in photo)* has taken over as the General Officer Commanding (GOC), Karnataka and Kerala Sub Area. On Monday, Major General Ravi Murugan relinquished the command and handed over the baton to Major General Mathew.

Major General Mathew is an alumnus of Sainik School, Kazhakootam, National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla, and Indian Military Academy, Dehradun. He was commissioned into 11 Madras Regiment in December 1988. He has held important instructional, staff and UN peacekeeping appointments. He had been on the UN Mission in Democratic Republic of Congo as Military Observer, and was the Chief Operational Officer, Force HQ UNISFA, Sudan.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of General Public that our Client is intending to purchase immovable property bearing New Municipal No.23, (earlier portion of Property No.23), situated at G.No.9th Street, Jogupalya, Halasuru, B'lore–08, measuring E-W: On the Northern side– 41.3 ft, and On the Southern side 39 ft, and N-S : 30.6 ft., in all 1228.59 Sq.ft., bounded on East by: 8 ft, Common Passage, West by : Private Property, North by : Property gifted to G.Jaganath Gowda (Portion of Property No.23), South by : G.No.9th Street, from its owner **SRI. MOHAN KUMAR,** S/o Late M.D.Raju @ M.D.Girirajuv, #8, 2nd Cross, Venkataswamappa Layout, Shampur, B'lore. Any person/s having objections to the said transactions can register their claim/s with documentary evidence with the undersigned within 7 days of publication hereof, failing which, our client will proceed with the transactions and any claim/s received thereafter will not be entertained.

H.V.NAVEEN KUMAR RAO & H.V.SUNIL KUMAR RAO
ADVOCATES
No. 57, 1st Floor, Veerapillai Street, Bengaluru-01.
Mob : 9341380225

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of General Public that our Client is intending to purchase immovable property bearing New Municipal No.23/7, (earlier Portion of Property No.23), situated at G.No.9th Street, Jogupalya, Halasuru, B'lore–08, measuring E-W: On the Northern side – 43.6 ft, and On the Southern side 41.3 ft, and North to South : 30 ft, in all 1273.5 Sq.ft, bounded on East by: 8 ft, Common Passage, West by : Private Property, North by : Property gifted to Sri.R.Somanath Gowda (Portion of Property No.23), South by : Property gifted to Sri.R.Mohan Kumar (Portion of Property No.23), from its owners **1. SMT. SUMATHI JAGANATH,** W/of Late Sri. Jaganath Gowda & 2) **SMT. SUHASINI GOWDA,** D/of Late Sri. Jaganath Gowda, #22, G No. 10th Street, Halasuru, H.A.L II Stage, B'lore. Any person/s having objections to the said transactions can register their claim/s with documentary evidence with the undersigned within 7 days of publication hereof, failing which, our client will proceed with the transactions and any claim/s received thereafter will not be entertained.

H.V.NAVEEN KUMAR RAO & H.V.SUNIL KUMAR RAO
ADVOCATES
No. 57, 1st Floor, Veerapillai Street, Bengaluru-01.
Mob : 9341380225

NATIONAL CONSUMER DISPUTES REDRESSAL COMMISSION
Under the Cosumer Protection Act, 2019
Upbhokta Nyay Bhawan 'F' Block, General Pool Office Complex, INA, New Delhi-110023 Telephone No: 011-24608801-04 Fax No: 011-24651505
Consumer Complaint No.166 of 2023

Nishant Sharma & Preeti Sharma ... Complainant
Versus
M/s. Ajemera Housing Corporation ... Opposite Party

To,
THE PURCHASERS/ ALLOTTEES OF THE RESIDENTIAL PLOTS/UNITS OF PROJECTS NAMELY "AJMERA AVEURE" SITUATED AT: Electronic City, Phase-1, Bangalore AND DEVELOPED BY M/s. Ajemera Housing Corporation

Whereas total 17 Complainants being led by complainant no.1, namely, Mr. Nishant Sharma & Preeti Sharma, S 202, Ajmera Avenue, Electronic City, Phase-1, Bangalore through Mr. Sudhir Kathpalia & Associated, E-272, Greater Kailash Part-2, New Delhi-110048, MOb.8800911270, filed the captioned Consumer Complaint No.166 of 2023 before the Hon'ble National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, New Delhi on behalf and/ or the benefit of all the consumers who have either booked or have been allotted a residential plots in the project namely **"AJMERA AVEURE"** Situated at Electronic city, Phase-1, Bangalore being developed & Maintained by the Opposite Paty namely M/s. Ajemera Housing Coporation, through its Regd. Office at 3/D, 3rdFloor, Ward NO. 68, 7th C Main, 3rd Cross, Koramangala, Bangalore-560034 for redressal of their common grievances, and seeking the following reliefs'.

"1.) Direct the Opposite party to provide various facilities and amenities as promised in the respective sale deeds in favour of the complainants and other allottees of **AJMERA AVENUE"**

2.) Direct the Opposite party include the complainants and other allottees of **"AJMERA AVENUE"** to participate in the activities of the Ajmera Infinty Apartment Owners Association and make them part of the said association as provided in their sale deeds.

3.) Award compensation of Rs. 50,00,000/- on account of causing financial risk, hardship, mental agony, harassment, emotional disturbance caused to the Complainants and other allottees of **"AJMERA AVENUE".,**

4.) Direct the Opposite party must be directed to pay Rs. 1,00,000/- as litigation expenses to each of the complainants and other allottees of **"AJMERA AVENUE"**

5.) That any other and further relief in favour of the complainant as the Hon'ble Commission may deem fit and proper in the fact and circumstances of the case."

And whereas the Hon'ble Commission vide its order dated 24.04.2024 (Copy enclosed) is pleased to direct issue of notice of the institution of the above captioned complaint to all the consumers having same interest in the matter. Accordingly all allottees of units in the above referred Project having the same grievance against the Opposite party, may appear before the Commission in-person or through an Advocate/ Authorized Representative on 25.09.2024 at 10:30 A.M. They can inspect the file of the aforementioned Complaint in the office of the Counsel for the Complainant (s) and apply for being impleaded as a party to the complaint.

They may also note that the decision of the Commission in the captioned complaint will be binding on all the consumers on whose behalf and/or for whose benefit the complaint is instituted.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Commission on this **06th day of June 2024.**

Seal of the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission

By Order
(RAJESH NATH)
Assistant Registrar

Govt. of Karnataka
Department of AYUSH
Dhanvanthri Road, Bengaluru-560009, Phone: 080-22876553, Fax: 080-22340139, Email : directorayush.eproc@gmail.com

No: AYUSH/01/Procurement/2024-25 Dt: 28-06-2024

E-Tender Notification (Through kpp portal only)

http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

The e-tender in Two Document Systems invited from the Tender inviting Authority and Accounts Officer, Department of AYUSH, Bangalore for the **Group-D etc., workers under State Scheme to Directorate of AYUSH and Subordinate Institutions** for the year 2024-25 as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements Act 1999-2000 Rules there under.

1.	The Tender document will be available from	**01-07-2024 on 5:30 p.m.**
2.	The last day of bid submission is	**31-07-2024 upto 3:30 p.m.**
3.	Technical bids opening Date	**01-08-2024 at 4.00 p.m.**

For further details may be viewed at above website.

Sd/- Accounts Officer/Chairman
(Tender Inviting Authority) Directorate of Ayush,
Dhanvantri Road, Bangalore-09

DIPR/CP/RO705/AAPL/2024-25

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU, AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
e-TENDER NOTICE No: SC2/20312/2024, Date: 01.07.2024

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, the Chief Engineer (AE), Agricultural Engineering Department, 487, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035 invites tender for the Rate Contract Tender (RCT) for Empanelment of firms for Design, Fabrication and Installation of Solar drying unit under Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation (SMAM) subsidy scheme for the year 2024-25 and 2025-26 as detailed below as per the terms and conditions and detailed specification listed in the tender document.

Tender No.	Tender for the supply of	EMD (Rs.in lakh)
AED/SC2/ 20312/2024	Rate Contract Tender (RCT) for Empanelment of firms for Design, Fabrication and Installation of Solar drying unit under Sub Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation (SMAM) subsidy scheme to be implemented by Agricultural Engineering Department in Tamil Nadu for the year 2024-25 and 2025-26.	1.00

The tender documents with detailed specifications and price bid format are available in **www.tntenders.gov.in** as per schedule below. Tender documents and Price Bid Format can be downloaded, filled and shall be uploaded online through Internet Explorer or Microsoft Edge from the site **www.tntenders.gov.in** at free of cost.

e-Tender Publishing Date and Time	02.07.2024, 10.00 AM
Pre Bid Meeting	09.07.2024, 3.00 PM
Tender document download – Start Date and Time	02.07.2024, 10.00 AM
Bid submission - Start Date and Time	02.07.2024, 3.00 PM
Bid submission - Closing Date and Time	18.07.2024, 3.00 PM
Bid opening Date and Time	19.07.2024, 3.00 PM

The e-Tenders will be opened online through **www.tntenders.gov.in** on the date and time mentioned above at the office of the Chief Engineer (AE), Agricultural Engineering Department, Nandanam, Chennai.

DIPR/2151/Tender/2024 **Chief Engineer (AE)**

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (East),
17th Floor, P.U. Building, M.G. Road, Bengaluru-560001.
Phone:080-22975545, E-Mail: horteast@gmail.com

No: SADH(East)/TENDER/PR/01/24-25 Dated: 01.07.2024

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)

(SHORT TERM) (TWO COVER SYSTEM)
(Through GoK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (East), B.B.M.P., Bengaluru (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies/Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour department for Maintenance of Parks as per Standard tender document KW-2 & KW-3.

S.N.	Name of the work
1	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Radhakrishna Temple Ward parks (Ward No: 61). **Estimated Cost :** Rs.7582050/-. **EMD :** Rs.151641/-. **Reservation / Category :** OTHERS.
2	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Sanjaya Nagara Ward parks (Ward No: 62) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.3720150/-. **EMD :** Rs.37202/-. **Reservation / Category :** SC.
3	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Hebbala Ward parks (Ward No: 63) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.3220050/-. **EMD :** Rs.64401/-. **Reservation / Category :** OTHERS.
4	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Kaval Bairasandra Ward parks (Ward No: 69) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.2740050/-. **EMD :** Rs.54801/-. **Reservation / Category :** OTHERS.
5	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Pulikeshinagara Ward parks (Ward No: 75) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.4167000/-. **EMD :** Rs.41670/-. **Reservation / Category :** SC.
6	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in HRBR Layout Ward parks (Ward No: 78) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.3435625/-. **EMD :** Rs.68713 /-. **Reservation / Category :** OTHERS.
7	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Banasavadi Ward parks (Ward No: 82) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.6783083/- **EMD :** Rs.67831/-. **Reservation / Category :** SC.
8	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Benniganahalli Ward parks (Ward No: 109) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.4692100/- **EMD :** 93842/-. **Reservation / Category :** OTHERS.
9	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Kaggadasanapura Ward parks (Ward No: 111) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.2714050/- **EMD :** Rs.54281/-. **Reservation / Category :** OTHERS.
10	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Hoysala Nagara Ward parks (Ward No: 113) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.8444590/- **EMD :** Rs.168892/-. **Reservation / Category :** OTHERS.
11	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Jeevanbhima Nagara Ward parks (Ward No: 114) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.2751450/- **EMD :** Rs.55029/-. **Reservation / Category :** OTHERS.
12	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Vasanth Nagara Ward parks (Ward No: 117) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.4138000/- **EMD:** Rs.82760/-. **Reservation / Category :** OTHERS.
13	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Sampangirama Nagara Ward parks (Ward No: 118) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.6965300/-. **EMD:** Rs.139306/-. **Reservation / Category :** OTHERS.
14	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Ashok Nagara Nagara Ward parks (Ward No: 167) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.5687215/-. **EMD:** Rs.113744/-. **Reservation / Category :** OTHERS.
15	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Vannarpete Ward parks (Ward No: 169) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.3443705/-. **EMD:** Rs.34437/-. **Reservation / Category :** SC.
16	Maintenance of Horticulture Works in Domlur Ward parks (Ward No: 171) **Estimated Cost :** Rs.8952920/- . **EMD:** Rs.89529/-. **Reservation / Category :** ST.

Calendar of events: 1) Date of Notification : 01.07.2024 2) Tender can be downloaded from: 04.07.2024. 3) Tender Closing Date : 15.07.2024 at 4.00 PM. 4) Technical bid opening date : 16.07.2024 at 4.30 PM. 5) Pre bid meeting will be held on: 09.07.2024 at 4.00 PM. 6) Financial bid opening date : After Approval of Technical bid.

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (East)

BUILDING BLOCKS

Old is gold: A close-up of one of two IMAX cameras seen at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington. REUTERS

How cinema is captured and presented through the IMAX format

IMAX is one of the most popular film formats being employed in commercial filmmaking in cinema today; its continued use in the production pipelines of many major films, suggests that it is here to stay

Prathmesh Kher

Cinema has always been a home to spectacle. Most theatrically released cinematic works, especially till the development of digital photography, employed the use of 35 mm film stock to capture the stunning vistas and cinematic protagonists. For the bulk of its history, almost all movies were shot using this 35mm film. Most modern cinematic productions have since replaced the 35mm film stock with a digital sensor. But film purists argue that film stock provides for superior resolution.

Standard film stock is a photochemical emulsion with a total width of 35mm, which records images passing vertically through a camera. Some of that frame width needs to be used to accommodate sprocket holes, which are called perforations (or perfs, if you will), that pass the film through the camera. A standard 35mm film stock has four perforations. As must be self evident, a larger surface area on a piece of film would allow for more photographic information to be captured. This was made possible through the use of 70mm film stock. The expansive imagery of the American West in Raoul Walsh's 1930 film *The Big Trail* was brought to light through the use of 70mm film. But it wasn't until television started stealing viewers away from Hollywood in the 1950s that the industry recognised the benefit of making 70mm a major event.

This period led to the release of epics such as *Lawrence of Arabia* and *The Sound of Music* in the 1960s. The numbers bore out the impact that the 70mm format had with its visual resolution and superior sound quality.

It was in this period that Graeme Ferguson, Roman Kroitor, Robert Kerr, and William C. Shaw came together to develop what would become IMAX.

What is IMAX?

IMAX is a motion picture film format. It consists of a production pipeline of high-resolution cameras, film formats, projectors, and theatres. Developed in Canada in the 1970s, IMAX seeks to give the viewer an immersive movie-watching experience with its large screens. IMAX theatre screens have a tall aspect ratio of 1.43:1, meaning that the width of the screen is 1.9 times the height of the screen. The screens can be 18 by 24 metres in size, with the largest screen in Leonberg, Germany, measuring 38.8 metres by 21 metres.

The IMAX negative frame has a size of 70x48mm, nearly eight times the size of what a traditional cinema film stock can capture. The IMAX format uses 70 mm film run horizontally through the projector. In normal film projection theatres, a 35 mm or a 70 mm film is run vertically. Because of this horizontal orientation, the IMAX format produces images that can be screened at 8.3 times the size as a regular 35 mm film or 3.4 times as large as the regular 70 mm film. The larger the surface area of a piece of film, the more photographic information it will contain. This means that an IMAX image yields more detail in the image.

IMAX cameras are notably larger and bulkier compared to standard cinema cameras. This size is primarily due to the large film format they use. This larger film size allows for higher resolution and clarity. Digital IMAX cameras, while smaller than their film counterparts, are still larger than most standard digital cinema cameras due to their advanced sensors and technology. The IMAX film format provides an extremely high resolution vis-à-vis its 35mm counterpart. In fact, theoreticians estimate that a standard 35mm film would have a digital resolution of around 4k, whereas a standard 70mm film would resolve at around 8k. In comparison, the IMAX format is estimated at having an equivalent digital resolution of 18k.

As a capture and storage medium, film can last indefinitely. This means that future generations could witness even more detail lurking within an IMAX frame when digital projection technology catches up.

Big screen, big business

The Dark Knight was the first major motion picture to be filmed with high-resolution IMAX cameras, and its billion dollar box office result along with its many award nominations, including for its cinematography, cemented IMAX's potential as a motion picture format. The success of Christopher Nolan's other movies, *The Dark Knight Rises*, *Interstellar*, *Dunkirk*, and his most recent *Oppenheimer*, all of which employed the IMAX format, have made its commercial potential evident. It has also sparked an interest in other filmmakers such as J.J. Abrams (*Star Wars: The Force Awakens*), Michael Bay (*Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen*) and Damien Chazelle (*First Man*) who also employed the format.

There is also a trend of conventionally shot films being upscaled to be projected on IMAX screens; the improved sound quality and visual appearance is supposed to enhance the viewing experience. IMAX has, in recent years, also ventured into digital filmmaking with its own slew of certified high-fidelity digital cameras that can be used to create IMAX-format films. The first film to employ such a camera was *Captain America: Civil War* following which many blockbuster movies including *Top Gun Maverick* as well as the *Dune* films were shot using this format. With films being converted to the IMAX format, the market seems to be saturating with the format. There is also concern that with such a vast stockpile of digital productions in their pipeline, the IMAX film format which is what cemented its position in the first place might become a thing of the past. However, there are filmmakers such as Christopher Nolan, Jordan Peele, Ryan Coogler and others who continue to boost the IMAX film format.

Heavy lies the crown

As with all things in life, IMAX does come with its own downsides.

The first, and possibly the most evident, drawback is cost. IMAX film cameras are notoriously expensive to rent. This combined with the cost of buying and processing the amount of 65mm film, which because in IMAX's film runs horizontally, is also considerably higher. With 15 perforations per frame moving through the camera's gate 24 times per second, over 300 feet of 70mm film is required for every minute that is shot. The IMAX cameras are also incredibly noisy given that 15 perforations of film need to run through the camera much faster than a regular four perforations 35mm film. This makes it difficult if not impossible to record synchronous audio and forces filmmakers to do Automated Dialogue Replacement (ADR). This additional cost of dubbing the dialogue over is compounded by the bulkiness of the IMAX cameras. The heavy cameras were not designed to be handheld forcing filmmakers to use additional equipment such as a dolly, cranes, tripods, and other devices to mount the cumbersome IMAX camera.

However, given its increasing demand in tentpole films, IMAX has said it is working to improve the specifications on its camera technology. This would theoretically make their hulking cameras more mobile and also reduce its mechanical noise. These technical developments, as well as the continued use of the format in the production pipelines of many major films, suggests that IMAX is here to stay.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

As the Parliament session starts, a quiz on the role of the Speaker and deputy Speaker

Venkataraghavan Srinivasan

QUESTION 1
Which Speaker of the Lok Sabha was the first to serve twice but neither for the full designated term?

QUESTION 2
Who was the first Speaker of the Lok Sabha to serve two terms?

QUESTION 3
Which former Speaker of the Lok Sabha later became the President of India?

QUESTION 4
In the event of the Speaker's office falling vacant, who presides over the sessions of the Lok Sabha?

QUESTION 5
In the Lok Sabha, can the Speaker vote for any legislative business?

QUESTION 6
Which politician from Tamil Nadu has served as the deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha twice?

Visual question:
Identify this politician. She was the first woman Speaker of Lok Sabha. FILE PHOTO

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The first Tour de France was organised by this newspaper. **Ans: *L'Auto***
2. The other two countries, apart from France, that hosts Grand Tour races. **Ans: Italy and Spain**
3. The reason why Tour de France will not finish on the iconic Champs-Élysées street in Paris in 2024. **Ans: Because Paris is hosting the Olympics**
4. The body which required women's World Tour races to have a maximum stage length of 160 km. **Ans: Union Cycliste Internationale**
5. The word used to describe groups of cyclists who ride close to or just behind each other. **Ans: Peloton**
Visual: Name this cyclist. **Ans: Marco Pantani**
Early Birds: Seema Das| Abhyuday Singh Bhadauria| Manjot Singh| K.N. Viswanathan

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

" 'Think up' 'think through' (A. Nagpal)."

" 'Think up' means 'produce by thought, devise.'

I must think up a way of getting out of this place.

He has thought up a plan for eradicating malaria.

'Think through' means 'reflect fully upon.' When you think through something, you consider it fully.

I am sorry I have not thought the problem through.

I must think through the problem and then see if I can think up a solution to it."

"Is it good to coin words?"

"We get tired of ordinary language and occasionally coin words to express some new concept. It is a human tendency and it is done by speakers of all languages. Sometimes we do it for fun, sometimes in all seriousness. Even children coin words to the surprise of adults. When a word is coined by a writer, he does it in order to fill a semantic gap. Sometimes it is given a warm welcome, often the cold shoulder. Some coinages survive and some do not. Ruskin coined the word 'illth' on the analogy of 'wealth.' 'Wealth' is from 'weal' which originally meant 'well-being.' Ruskin wanted to convey the opposite of 'well-being' by the word 'illth.' 'Commonwealth' literally means 'common well-being.' From 'well-being,' we get the modern meaning 'riches.' We tend to believe that our well-being depends largely on 'riches'. Ruskin's coinage 'illth' has not survived.

When 'mob' was used for the first time in the 18th century, it was severely attacked by writers like Swift.

When 'implement' and 'contact' were first used as a verb about 50 years ago, teachers and grammarians came down heavily on such usage. Now few are even aware that there was a chorus of criticism against the use of 'implement' and 'contact' as verbs. We are all the time contacting someone or other to find out whether something should be implemented or not. When 'hopefully' was used for the first time in the sense of 'it is to be hoped,' there was a howl of protest. It is used in this sense by a lot of people now. But it is still looked on with disfavour by some grammarians. After mentioning the meaning 'it is hoped,' dictionaries add 'disp.' to convey that this meaning is still disputed by some. Hopefully, the new meaning will be accepted soon without any dispute.

Coinages like 'sexploitation' and 'sexpot' meaning 'the excessive exploitation of sex, especially commercially' have entered the dictionary but not 'sexcitement'. Nobody can predict what coinages will survive and what not. Words are coined all the time. No living language is static. Some words die, some new words come into being and some words acquire an additional meaning or meanings. Also words with a good sense acquire a bad meaning and words with a bad meaning acquire a good meaning. That is, over a period, some words become exalted in meaning and some become degraded in meaning. Like human beings, words also have their ups and downs. More about this next week.

Published in The Hindu on July 21, 1992.

Word of the day

Febrile:
of or relating to or characterised by fever

Synonym: feverish

Usage: *It was a febrile reaction caused by an allergen.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/febrilepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈfɛbɹaɪl/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

‘Bangalore Little Theatre succeeded in bridging the city-cantonment divide’

The deep love for children has been an integral aspect of Vijay’s 63-year association with the BLT, which he has been part of, in various capacities, since its inception in 1960

INTERVIEW

Vijay Padaki

Preeti Zachariah
BENGALURU

Vijay Padaki’s final appearance on stage.

Vijay Padaki

Not too long ago, Vijay Padaki found himself in a group, discussing the qualifications, skills, expertise, and training needed for children’s theatre. “The group turned to me for an opinion,” says the theatre doyen, who believes that though these criteria were important, they were insufficient. “I have always felt there was a far more fundamental requirement. To do children’s theatre, you must love children,” he says.

This deep love for children has been an integral aspect of his 63-year association with the Bangalore Little Theatre (BLT), which he has been part of, in various capacities, since its inception in 1960. Notably, in 2005, when BLT created the Academy of Theatre Arts, an entire programme titled Schools & Children was introduced as a key focus area.

These efforts have finally obtained the recognition they richly deserve. On May 28, Vijay received the International Lifetime Achievement Award from ASSITEJ (Association Internationale du Théâtre de l’Enfance et la Jeunesse) International, a network of artists and organisations in over 75 countries dedicated to the belief that every child and young person deserves access to the arts, in Cuba.

“It was very satisfying,” he admits, pointing out that while everyone remembered BLT for public performances, their children’s theatre work was not always so visible. “It was good that it got the recognition it deserved - outside the country before within! That was more important for me than the award itself,” says Vijay, Trustee Emeritus, BLT.

BLT is a vital aspect of the English Theatre landscape in this city. Can you talk about the origins of English Theatre in Bengaluru and its strong links to the city’s colonial past?

We must begin by accepting that English language theatre has remained an urban phenomenon in India, restricted to the larger cities. Bengaluru has certainly nurtured English theatre for a long time.

When Charles Cornwallis first marched his troops from Trinity Church down South Parade in the late 18th century, he might not have realized that he was creating the great cantonment-city divide. After the British established the Bangalore Cantonment (in 1806), it was inevitable that the English language would be adopted in many social transactions in the areas under the administration. A natural accompaniment to this process was the emergence and establishment of schools with English as the medium of instruction. Not surprisingly, many of these schools were characterised by two features—a missionary origin and staffing with expatriate / British teachers.

The teaching and practice of drama in “English” schools were integral to the British educational system. It simply reflected the social context in which the theatre was a living and vibrant art form.

It can be said that English language drama in India was essentially a colonial cultural legacy. The very term colonial legacy has, inescapably, a negative connotation, but it must be accepted that there were some obvious positive features of the legacy as well: technically sound stages, for instance. Also, teachers coming from Britain were often trained and experienced in both teaching drama and producing plays, and they had exposure to good stagecraft. However, we cannot overlook the fact that the legacy also had some obvious negative features, especially an overall alienation from Indian culture. Drama studies amounted to a narrow pursuit of English and Western traditions, with students remaining ignorant of Indian and Eastern traditions, and there was a clear cantonment-city cultural divide.

Can you describe BLT’s evolution over the years and how it began creating a bridge between English-language and Kannada theatre traditions in the city?

In the 50s, there was already a strong amateur drama tradition in Bengaluru, which was made up mainly of college and university folks. Much of this was in Kannada. They would also take on English language productions now and then, with organisations like Natya Sangha and A.D.A. becoming great catalysts of theatre productions.

Second, English medium schools of missionary origin often had drama teachers from England bringing strong theatre practice into the schools. Bishop Cotton actually had a technically sound stage. There was a large expat community in Bengaluru that liked to produce English language plays, notably through the Bangalore Amateur Dramatic Society (BADS).

Scott Tod, a trained director, and Margaret Tod, a trained actor, arrived on the scene in 1959, bringing experiences of the Little Theatre movement in the U.K. They had strong reservations about the all-white character of the expat community. They looked around and found the active, home-grown amateur drama community. And BLT was born. Several founder members of BLT were stalwarts of Kannada theatre, even going on to become big names in cinema. Not surprisingly, BLT succeeded in bridging the city-cantonment divide.

What do you think about the current theatre landscape? How does the lack of structured theatre institutions hamper its growth, making it hard for a professional theatre artist to live off their art, so to speak?

It is clear that the poor state of the Indian theatre system is similar to that of many other post-colonial societies: a priority given to economic development at the expense of cultural development.

One consequence of such an inadequate policy is that we are preoccupied with the survival of single organisations through one-off fundraising and sponsorship efforts. We do not visualise the larger system of necessarily interconnected organisations that form the theatre institution. An institution is thus an “organisation of organisations.” A component organisation can thrive and prosper only if the institution prospers.

Acknowledging the notable exceptions in small pockets in different parts of the country, it can nevertheless be said that theatre in India is characterised by low numbers involved, low quantum of work being done, low public interest, low institutionalisation, low viewership and low funding -- in general, a low stature.

The loop between social investment in the theatre and its growth and vibrancy has been a virtuous cycle in some societies. It appears to be a vicious cycle in India.

The challenge, of course, is to first arrest the cycle and then reverse it. Theatre arts cannot be sustained without a truly developmental process. For theatre to be truly vibrant and sustainable, it must be genuinely integrated into a socio-cultural context with component features of the larger body that must all grow and develop in a necessarily interdependent way.

In this era of shortened attention spans and constant access to entertainment, how can theatre remain relevant?

It is obvious that simple cause-effect explanations are unhelpful. Attendance at theatre performances is affected by multiple factors—e.g., insane traffic conditions, increasingly long hours at the workplace, alternatives available in the comfort of home, people increasingly distanced from dramatic literature, poor exposure ... and so on. I am increasingly convinced that a systemic solution to all of the above is beyond the capability of any single theatre organisation. This may be possible only if all performance-related organisations collaborate and act upon it in an institutionalised manner.

Could you talk about your own journey in theatre?

Since when have I been in drama? Since birth! My appearance in this world must have been dramatic - nine years after the third child in the family.

My first school was in Allahabad. It was a Hindi-medium school. I was pushed into a school play. I remember being terrified and hated it.

The other thing I remember about my school-going years was that I was left largely to myself. There was a big age difference between my siblings and I. As a somewhat lonely child, I had one constant companion: my imagination. Later in life, two Scotsmen gave me my first serious exposure to the theatre.

The first was Dr J.R. Macphail, a professor at Madras Christian College and an authority in dramaturgy.

The other was Scott Tod, one of the founders of BLT. Theatre, for me, is a pursuit. A deeply involving pursuit. The longest lasting of several pursuits. Each of these has taken much of my time and involvement and has had accomplishments, not just dabbling. Photography, shooting and firearms, automobile engine overhauling, electro-acoustic and hi-fi systems, woodwork, singing, and swimming, among others. They came and went. Drama remained. But it has always been clear to me that it is a pursuit. Nothing more, nothing less. I am not a “theatre person”. I am not wedded to the theatre. The theatre is an enduring mistress. A very possessive one.

Can you talk about your more recent foray into writing?

I came into writing late in this journey. I had already done a lot of acting, directing, and stagecraft, which I suppose helped. I found that when I was writing, I was always visualising the stage and the action. Many have remarked on the “action bias” in my writing.

BLT decided to felicitate me on my 80th birthday. They planned a festival of my plays and the publication of all my plays.

I reminded the management committee that it was also BLT’s Diamond Jubilee year and that it would be more appropriate to position the plays as a BLT publication project. I accepted to be the series editor. Ten volumes of plays are in the project. Six are already out. The remaining four should be released very soon.

More recently, I began to explore the craft of the short story. I loved it, especially the “economy of force” it demanded of me. After several one-on-one exchanges and private readings in small groups, I took the plunge and submitted several manuscripts for publication.

Thirty-five short stories will come out in two volumes very soon.

International knee and orthopaedic centre inaugrated

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The International Knee and Orthopaedic Centre a unit of Sakra World Hospital was inaugurated on Monday. International Knee and Orthopaedic Centre (IKOC) is a 50-bedded super speciality hospital, equipped with four modular operation theatres, eight ICU beds and six emergency beds.

The IKOC launched a fully active MISSO robot, a cutting-edge technology designed to enhance the precision and recovery time of joint replacement surgeries. This advanced system aids in performing surgeries with the highest accuracy, minimal blood loss and faster patient recovery, setting a new standard in orthopaedic care.

Dr. Chandrashekar P., Director of IKOC, played a pivotal role in designing this robotic system. Dr. Chandrashekar P. said, “The launch of the Made in India knee replacement robot MISSO - for the first time in India, is a defining moment in the orthopaedic field. MISSO will democratise robotics in the country.”

Banjara Kasuti partners with Amazon India to empower Karnataka’s Banjara community

It aims to bring the rich heritage and craftsmanship of the Lambani community in North Karnataka to a global audience

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka’s Banjara community.

Banjara Kasuti, a non-profit organisation based in Vijayapura, Karnataka, has partnered with Amazon India’s Karigar programme to support Lambani women by enabling them to sell their handcrafted products online. This partnership aims to bring the rich heritage and craftsmanship of the Lambani community in North Karnataka to a global audience through Amazon, one of the largest online marketplaces globally. Through the initiative, Amazon aims to create employment opportunities for women from the Lambani community.

Lambani art

Banjara Kasuti, founded in 2017 it seeks to preserve traditional Lambani art and economically empower Lambani women, promoting self-sufficiency and entrepreneurship. This partnership will provide economic opportunities, preserve cultural heritage, and support community development for Banjara artisans, said a release.

Asha Patil, Founder of Banjara Kasuti, said, “Our collaboration with Amazon India will provide dignity, social security, and financial independence to Lambani women while preserving the Lambani art form. This partnership will allow them to showcase their craftsmanship to a wider audience, enhancing their living standards.”

Local artisans

“The Amazon Karigar initiative provides a marketplace for India’s local artisans, offering an opportunity to not only empower artisans and sellers to gain financial independence and instil a sense of entrepreneurship but also exhibit the country’s rich handicrafts heritage,” said the release.

Gaurav Bhatnagar, Director, of Sales, Amazon India said, “This collaboration is a significant step towards empowering Lambani women by bringing their exquisite, handcrafted products to a global audience. Through the Amazon Karigar initiative, we are committed to showcasing India’s rich handicrafts heritage, fostering financial independence, and instilling a sense of entrepreneurship among local artisans.”

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 2, 1974

Centre Urged to Review Paper Supply Policy

Hubli, July 1: Mr. S.M. Krishna, the Industries Minister, has called for a review of the Central Government policy on the distribution of paper by paper mills in the country. The Centre had issued a circular directing mills to ensure certain quantity “for distributors based on the consumption figures for three years ending with 1971.” This had adversely affected the State’s interest which had less number of dealers and the State Govt. was not able to prevail upon paper mills in the State to earmark 40 per cent of their production for indigenous consumption. The Government would take up this matter with the Centre, Mr. Krishna said. The Minister was commissioning a third paper machine at the West Coast Paper Mills, Dandeli to raise the daily production from 150 to 200 tonnes.

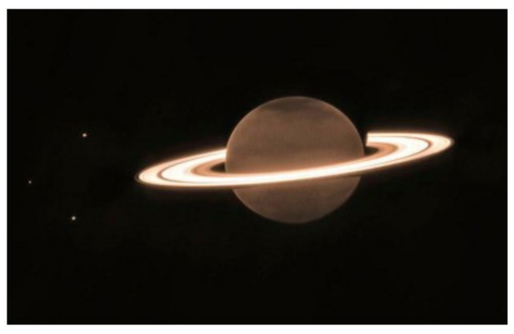
State Finance Corporation Loan Arrears

Bangalore, July 1: The Karnataka State Financial Corporation is faced with the problem of recovery of substantial loans it granted, on the guarantee of the State Government, to two textile mills which were subsequently taken over by the Textile Corporation of India.

The total arrears towards instalments due by those two mills were Rs. 12 lakhs towards principal and Rs. 16.90 lakh towards interest.

The moratorium imposed by the Government of India on the liabilities of these two mills, incurred prior to the takeover still continues with the results in arrears due to the State Financial Corporation have not been cleared.

CITYBEATS



Star spotting

REGISTRATIONS OPEN
There will be a 100-hour course in astronomy and astrophysics, conducted on a week-end basis from August 3 onwards. The classes are open to all under and post graduate students of B.Sc or BE and above. The seats are limited to 30.
At the MP Birla Institute of Fundamental Research, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Campus. Call 22385956, 40914507 or visit www.mpbifr-blr.in

Sweet touch

ONGOING
Amingad's Vijaya Karadant opens its fourth outlet in Bengaluru and its 25th in Karnataka that, once again, is dedicated to making karadantus. Founded in 1907, Amingad's Vijaya Karadant is said to be India's first traditional karadant maker. They are known to make these sweets using conventional cooking methods.
The new branch is in Basaveshwaranagar.

Munch a brunch

ONGOING
Binge on chef Rungtiwa's Thai delicacies, which includes Thai curries, a special savoury Thai omelette, and the crispy treat Khanom bueang. Chef Rungtiwa is known for her cooking techniques with intricate flavours that define Thai culinary tradition. Her cooking style, she says, is rooted in her heritage.
At Sheraton Grand Bengaluru Whitefield Hotel.

Once upon a time

A small group of like minded souls is making a concerted effort to keep the art of storytelling relevant in a digital world

Rashmi Gopal Rao

Tale tellers The Bangalore Storytelling Society in action.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT / GETTY IMAGES / ISTOCK PHOTO

Storytelling is the oldest form of education and the art of storytelling has been an intrinsic part of Indian culture. From our folklore and *Panchatantra* to mythological tales and childhood favourites by grandparents, India is a land of wondrous stories. The Bangalore Storytelling Society (BSS) is one of the groups making a concerted effort to keep this fascinating art alive and relevant in today's digital world.

Formed in 2013, BSS is a collective of storytellers who have come together with the objective of propagating and nurturing the art of storytelling. "We are a group of seven passionate story tellers who started BSS as a registered body with a focus on oral storytelling for adults," says Vikram Sridhar.

The core team, which includes Aparna Athreya, Aparna Jaishankar, Lavanya Prasad, Ramya Srinidhi, Shylaja Sampath, Sowmya Srinivasan and Vikram, ideate and execute all the activities of the collective.

Vikram says they have been successful in creating a platform where people from all walks of life come together to share stories resulting in creative cooperation, synergy of thought and ultimately, community development.

Human connect is key

While stories can be told in multiple ways, BSS champions the cause of oral storytelling. "Oral storytelling provides a unique opportunity for an audience to experience human connection in terms of facial expressions and emotions. It helps people empathise, develop their imagination and creative thinking as well as improve their communication," says Aparna Jaishankar.

Exchanging stories helps people connect their past to the present and this creates an environment of bonding and positivity, she adds. This is evident in the energy exuded during BSS' monthly meet up. The theme for the meeting is brainstormed, finalised and a call for storytellers is put out on their social media handles and whatsapp group. These monthly meet-ups are free and most of them are open to those aged 16 and above.

"The theme is usually topical and is decided based on current events and happenings. It is heartening to witness how a single theme can conjure different perspectives and build diverse narratives. For example, we had 'chair' as the theme for one of our meets and it was fascinating to hear different stories ranging from nostalgia to politics," says Lavanya.

Events galore

BSS has been involved in various programmes and workshops with many of them being public collaboration events. "We have been part of events conducted by Rangoli Metro Art Centre, Gudiya Sambhrama and BIC. We conducted a series titled, Heads and Tales which was a collaboration with Rangoli Metro at Rangasthala that brought families together to listen to stories," says Sowmya.

Story Mania with Mentor saw a professional storyteller guide children on how to perform for their family and friends. "This was an online story coaching platform for children between five and 13 years," says Shylaja.

Story Sans Borders was an endeavour by BSS to include stories and storytellers beyond the barriers of language and profession. "Through a process of careful selection, we invited people to share stories in their native tongues. As many as 42 languages were heard during these sessions and were narrated by authors, businessmen and other professionals," says Aparna Athreya.

Katha Rasa was a notable project undertaken during the pandemic wherein children in rural Karnataka were provided audiovisual stories that had different learning concepts incorporated in them. These stories were recorded in multiple languages spoken in Karnataka and also included different dialects of Kannada, Konkani and Tulu. "Another project saw BSS collaborate with the Bangalore chapter of INTACH to narrate stories specific to the history and heritage of Bangalore to children studying in government schools," says Ramya.

Next on the calendar

BSS is now gearing up for its annual Bangalore Story Telling (BeST) festival scheduled for the end of this year, where it curates several learning and training events. It is a one-of-a-kind festival that highlights Bengaluru and acts as a bridge between traditional storytellers and contemporary practitioners. The festival has previously bought together some of the best names in oral storytelling including indigenous artistes practising art forms such as *Yakshagana, Bhoota Kola*, puppetry and the like, as well as a few international ones.

According to the core members, the philosophy of BSS is to create avenues for storytelling and provide a non-judgemental platform for both professionals and amateur storytellers. With an aim to make the art of storytelling accessible to all, BSS is working towards providing a space for people to engage with this art.

Cultivating happy minds

Praveen Sudevan

Drama queens Children hone their theatrical skills at Nali Mana. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Art has been a powerful tool for self-expression and emotional exploration for centuries. Studies show engaging in creative pursuits can trigger the release of dopamine, a neurotransmitter associated with pleasure and reward. This can elevate mood, boost self-esteem, and even reduce stress hormones.

In child development, art offers a unique advantage – it provides a safe space for young minds to navigate complex emotions, build self-awareness, and develop coping mechanisms. This is precisely the philosophy behind Nali Mana, a Bengaluru-based initiative that harnesses the power of theatre to nurture a child's psychological well-being.

Nali Mana's founder, Chukki KR, has always been drawn to the dual worlds of theatre and psychology. In college, she balanced acting with her studies in psychology, being involved in her parents' (N Mangala and Rangayana Raghu) theatre group, Sanchari.

Psychology classes intertwined with her evenings spent in theatre rehearsals, prompting Chukki to unconsciously bridge the gap between the two. This connection sparked the idea for her dissertation: exploring theatre's impact on well-being. Interviews with fellow theatre artistes echoed her own experience: "Theatre wasn't just acting; it shaped their approach to life." Encouraged by her supportive professor, Chukki's dissertation became the seed for Nali Mana.

Founded in April 2023 after her graduation, Nali Mana today provides a nurturing space for 15 children aged between five and 14 to explore their emotions and build a foundation for a healthy mind.

Engaging in creative pursuits can trigger the release of dopamine, which boosts self-esteem and reduces stress

Chukki envisions Nali Mana as a platform that leverages theatre as a therapeutic tool for children. "I see it improving their happiness, personality, and overall behaviour," she explains.

While acknowledging the existence of art therapies that utilise self-expression through drawing and body movement, she clarifies Nali Mana's distinct approach.

"In Nali Mana, we start by breaking the ice. We have a simple game called Tom and Jerry – it's like a chasing game. This helps children loosen up and feel like they are part of a team," she says.

Once the ice is broken, the sessions seamlessly transition into storytelling. Recognising theatre's multifaceted nature, Chukki incorporates movement and music to create a well-rounded experience. "We might start with a few games," she adds, "Then, we might move on to storytelling activities and conclude with some relaxation techniques that use music and movement."

"Storytelling is a big way we encourage imagination and creativity," she explains. "We might play some music, let the kids relax, and then I'll start telling a story. They have to imagine the story as I go, and then once it's over, they retell it. It's different from the original story because their imaginations take it in various directions. Sometimes, they'll retell it with words or even draw pictures. It's amazing to see how each child interprets the same story differently!"

Nali Mana prioritises tracking each child's progress. This is achieved through daily observations documented in individual worksheets akin to personal journals. Chukki finds this process fascinating as it allows her to witness each child's transformative journey. "For instance, a child who might be hesitant to speak up on day one might be taking the initiative and interacting comfortably with others by Day 15."

These behavioural shifts are recorded and shared with parents. Roopa R, mother to Kushaavartha P (11) and Gaanavi P (7), echoes the positive impact of Nali Mana on her children. "Before Nali Mana, my kids wouldn't mingle with anyone. However, something changed after the sessions with Chukki. It wasn't immediate. But slowly, my son started treating his sister and me differently. He was being helpful. Even my daughter has become more confident in the way she speaks."

Chukki's vision extends far beyond Nali Mana's current reach. "Why not embrace something as simple as theatre if it can spark happiness?" she asks. Having completed a year, she wants Nali Mana to collaborate with schools. "I'm interested in creating a program for adults as well," she says.

"We all deserve a space to express ourselves and boost our confidence. So, Nali Mana is for more than just kids. Art and therapy are for everyone."

For more information, contact 7090959669

Real versus surreal

Watch the film *Moon On the Man*, directed and produced by Prince Shah, who started his career in theatre, as a writer, director and a stage performer. He forayed into the world of cinema as an assistant director and has worked in films such as *Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol, Talaash* and *Gully Boy*.

He has also worked with directors like Christopher Nolan, the Wachowskis, Zoya Akhtar, Reema Kagti, Ashutosh Gowariker and Nitesh Tiwari and was one of the six filmmakers selected by the USA Government to visit five cities in the USA for a film program called 'Films as a medium for Social Change' in 2020.

Prince was also in the news recently when his music video *CHOR* went viral.

Moon on the Man looks at the most fundamental questions of reality, perception and choices. The film looks at two eccentric personalities – Praklawn and Sailesh, through their stories, life experiences and everyday activities.

"This narrative is annexed by Aasif and Wadood at a juncture when the stories of Praklawn and Sailesh enter into the realms of magic realism. They scrutinise Praklawn's and Sailesh's eventful past, and their debate on the mens' lives throws open a Pandora's box which questions the very nature of our reality," says the director.

The director will be present for the post-screening conversation with Sunanda Bhat. The screening is organised by Vikalp Bengaluru in collaboration with Bangalore International Centre. The 78-minute film, in English and Hindi will be screened on July 2, 6.30pm at BIC, Domlur.

Visit bic@bangaloreinternationalcentre.org for details.

'No bar': Foxconn has denied allegations of discrimination in employment based on marital status or gender. REUTERS

NHRC issues notices over recruitment practices at Foxconn

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Monday issued notice to the Secretary, Union Ministry of Labour and Employment, and the Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu calling for a detailed report on reports that Foxconn, a major manufacturer of Apple devices, "systematically excluded" married women from jobs at its iPhone assembly plant in Sriperumbudur.

It was alleged by a former human resources (HR) executive at Foxconn India that verbal directions were given to the Indian hiring agencies by the company in this regard. It was also stated that the company did not hire married women because of cultural issues and societal pressure.

"The Commission has observed that the contents of the media reports, if true, raise a serious issue of discrimination against married women causing the violation of the right to equality and equal opportunity," the NHRC said.

It also noted that gender equality is not only required in the Indian Constitution but also in international treaties and covenants, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.

The NHRC also maintained that it is the obligation of State authorities to ensure that all companies follow the norms and regulations relating to labour laws and the right to health and dignity to any individual, including women, who work in the supply chain of any production unit in the private sector.

As per reports, a number of job seekers in the company were spoken to during the period from January 2023 to May 2024 and the candidate information pamphlet of the company was examined. It was allegedly revealed that only unmarried women were eligible for assembly jobs.

Foxconn has denied the allegations of discrimination in employment based on marital status, gender, religion or any other form.

Shivakumar to form panel to analyse poor show in LS polls

He chairs a meeting of KPCC office-bearers to plan strategy for the byelection to 3 Assembly seats; move comes at a time when Siddaramaiah's loyalists demand multiple Deputy CM posts

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar meets Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge in New Delhi on Sunday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Amid a game of one-upmanship between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on the demand for creation of multiple Deputy Chief Minister posts and replacement of the Chief Minister, Mr. Shivakumar on Monday asserted his authority by chairing a meeting of KPCC office-bearers to chalk out the party's strategy for the bypolls to three Legislative Assembly constituencies and polls to urban and rural local bodies.

Sending a strong message against the demand for "one-man, one-post" advocated by loyalists of Mr. Siddaramaiah, Mr. Shivakumar held discussions on the Lok Sabha poll outcome with the party's office-bearers and District Congress Committee chiefs and decided to form a committee to find out reasons for the party's poor show in the elections.

Against the expectation of winning 15 Lok Sabha seats, the Congress ended up winning nine. The fact-finding committee will make a presentation before an AICC committee.

After the Lok Sabha polls, the Chief Minister's loyalists and some senior party leaders have been seeking replacement of Mr. Shivakumar from the KPCC chief's post.

Mr. Shivakumar holds the posts of the State Congress chief and two major portfolios.

The KPCC meeting took several decisions on the organisation's preparedness and readiness to face the elections. It passed a resolution on the necessity of holding divisional-level meetings attended by the Chief Minister, the KPCC president, and senior leaders for analysing the Lok Sabha election.

Sources in the party said Mr. Shivakumar told office-bearers that "some are trying to remove him from the party president's post. But they are making a futile attempt". The party's Central leadership is believed to have told him to continue in the post and issue show-cause notices to all those who violate party discipline. He and AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge held a meeting in Delhi on Sunday.

Delhi HC dismisses Kavitha's bail pleas

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Monday dismissed BRS leader K. Kavitha's bail pleas in two cases of corruption and money laundering linked to the alleged excise policy scam.

Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma, who had reserved the order on the two bail pleas of Kavitha on May 28, rejected the petitions. A detailed order is awaited.

Ms. Kavitha had challenged the trial court's May 6 order by which her bail applications in the CBI's corruption case as well as the ED's money-laundering case were dismissed.

Ms. Kavitha's lawyer submitted that of the 50 accused in the excise case, she is the lone woman, and urged the court to consider granting her bail as law keeps women on a different pedestal.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Enforcement Directorate (ED) opposed Ms. Kavitha's bail pleas, saying she is powerful enough to influence witnesses.

Judicial custody

Ms. Kavitha is in judicial custody in the two cases.

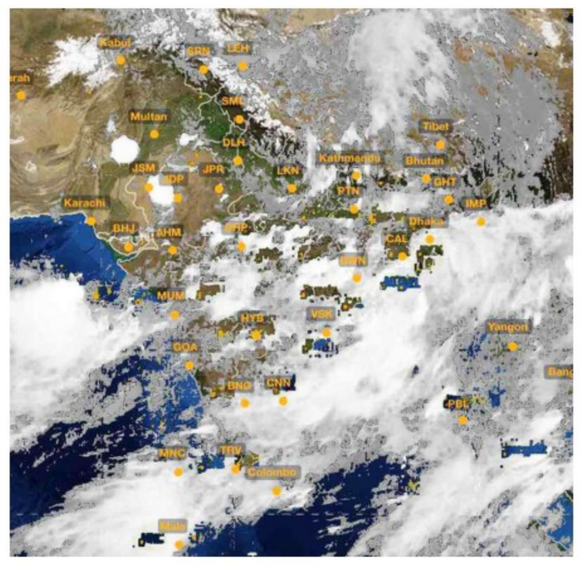
The "scam" pertains to alleged corruption and money laundering in the formulation and implementation of the Delhi government's excise policy for 2021-22 that was later scrapped.

The ED arrested Kavitha from her Banjara Hills residence in Hyderabad on March 15. The CBI arrested her in the Tihar jail.

In her bail plea in the ED case, the BRS leader, daughter of former Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao, had said she had "nothing to do" with the excise policy and there was a criminal conspiracy against her "orchestrated by the ruling party at the Centre with the active connivance of the ED".

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, coastal Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	42	29.5	26.6	Kozhikode	29	27.6	25.0
Ahmedabad	27.3	33.0	26.1	Kurnool	25	33.2	24.3
Aizawl	52	26.4	23.6	Lucknow	2	33.6	27.5
Allahabad	11	31.0	27.4	Madurai	—	36.5	26.7
Bengaluru	3	27.4	21.8	Mangaluru	13	28.8	25.3
Bhopal	27	29.2	24.0	Mumbai	9	33.1	26.8
Bhubaneswar	11.2	33.7	25.7	Mysuru	9.8	27.5	—
Chandigarh	0.4	36.6	29.3	New Delhi	—	36.0	28.4
Chennai	0.2	34.7	29.2	Patna	9	36.1	27.6
Coimbatore	—	29.5	23.6	Port Blair	—	31.2	25.4
Dehradun	9	32.9	24.4	Puducherry	—	32.2	27.3
Gangtok	14	23.6	17.9	Pune	1.9	30.1	23.8
Goa	29	31.6	25.5	Raipur	0.9	30.5	25.0
Guwahati	12	30.0	25.6	Ranchi	3	26.6	23.8
Hubballi	—	29.0	24.0	Shillong	121	21.5	17.5
Hyderabad	9	30.7	23.4	Shimla	0.5	27.2	21.6
Imphal	8	26.7	21.4	Srinagar	0.7	34.3	21.8
Jaipur	3.7	35.1	28.0	Thiruvananthapuram	16	28.8	—
Kochi	31	26.8	23.8	Tiruchi	—	35.5	27.0
Kohima	25	24.4	17.0	Vijayawada	5	32.1	25.4
Kolkata	0.2	32.6	28.2	Visakhapatnam	4	29.5	26.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.16	..—	102	...116	95	
Bengaluru	.14	..—	.79	41	53	
Chennai	.36	..20	.55	35	35	
Delhi	.24	..21	.63	...109	...194	
Hyderabad	...6	..30	.27	...130	.....—	
Kolkata	.12	..49	.45	35	55	
Lucknow	.13	..11	.21	49	40	
Mumbai	.24	135	.51	49	.....—	
Pune	.11	..30	.20	51	48	
Visakhapatnam	...9	..52	.40	.....—	89	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Saharsa, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 338 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 18

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tenders are invited for the following projects of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited Project

Sl. No.	Name of Project	E-Tender ID	PAC Amount (Exclusive of GST)	Bid Submission Last Date
1	Integrated Social Housing Complex for Slum Household Project at Rajaji Nagar Thiruvananthapuram First Phase	2024_SCTLT_676870_1	Rs.8,37,22,932/-	04 - July - 2024

All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement website. Bids are only accepted online on the Website https://etenders.kerala.gov.in
(sd/-) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

Town Municipal Council Mugalakhod
S.No/TMC/2024-25 Date:-29.06.2024
Tender Notification
Tenders are invited from qualified contractors on Model KW-1 and KW-2 and KW-3 and KG-3 for 08 Works Under 15th Finance, SFC Projects for the financial year 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24. Minimum 1.00 lakhs to maximum amount of Rs 73.00 lakhs for works. Indent No will be General Contractor DMA/2024-25/RD/WORK_INDENT19719, DMA/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT19714, DMA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT14736/CALL-2, DMA/2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT19590, DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT19595, DMA/2024-25/IND2131, DMA/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT19885, DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT19872. The time period for carrying out the work will be 6 months. The last date for uploading the tenders is 22.07.2024 till 5.00 pm. And the date of opening of tenders: 24.07.2024 at 11.00 am. For more information you can check the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. If there is any amendment in the tender, it will be notified online only
Sd/-Chief Officer TMC Mugalakhod
Sd/-Administrator TMC Mugalakhod and Assistant Commissioner Chikodi
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-246/KSMCA/2024-25

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through KPP Portal Only)
Tenders are invited through KPP Portal: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the following works at RTPS. **1). KPCL/2024-25/EL/WORK_INDENT1635/ Date: 26.06.2024,** Supply, Retrofitting, Testing and Commissioning of Existing 630A, C&S make Air Circuit Breaker(Model, AH-6D-CS) with new 800A ACB unit #7 ash slurry motors. **2). KPCL/2024-25/ PS/WORK_INDENT1651/ Date: 26.06.2024,** RTPS-Unit #7- Replacement of LP Turbine Inlet compensatory bellows (Left & Right) & A3 Bellow. Amount put to Tender: **Rs. 87,73,929/-.** EMD: **Rs. 1,75,500/-. 3). KPCL/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT1652, Date: 28.06.2024,** Maintenance of Cooling Towers and housekeeping of auxiliary buildings like CWPH 1,2,3 & 4, Clarifier 1, 2 and 3, FOPH 1 & 2, DM Plants 1 & 2, ODPH, Loco shed area, HMT Garage area, CISF Buildings at entrance gates, Watch Towers in Plant area for period of Nine Months. Amount put to Tender: **Rs. 45.00 Lakhs. 4). KPCL/2023-24/PS/WORK_INDENT1657 Date: 27.06.2024,** Removal of jammed Wet coal in mill feeders, Bowl Mills Center feed pipe feeder chute in Unit-2, 3 & 4 (XRP/HP-803 Mills). EMD: **Rs. 34,227/-** Last date for submission of tenders: For Sl. No. 1**, 11.07.2024 upto 17:30Hrs.** For Sl. No. 2 : **04.07.2024,16:00Hrs.** For Sl. No. 4 : **06.07.2024,17:00Hrs.** Further details can be had for Sl. No. 1, from the office of the **Executive Engineer (OLA)E,** Mobile No.: **94495 96531, E-mail: eeolartps@gmail.com.** For Sl. No. 2, **Executive Engineer (TM-2),** Mobile No.: **94808 30627,** For Sl. No. 4, **Executive Engineer (MM-1),** Mobile No.: **94495 96545,** For Sl. No. 3, **Executive Engineer (PCM-1),** Mobile No.: **94495 96577, KPCL, RTPS, Shaktinagar - 584170.** Website: **https://kpcl.karnataka.gov.in**

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (QA/QC) Division, West, Room No.101, Annex-3 Building, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.
No: EE(QA/QC)/West/TEND/19/2024-25 Date: 01-07-2024
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Only through KPP Portal)
The Executive Engineer Quality Assurance / Quality Control Division invites Request for Proposal from interested Persons / Firms those **who have done similar type of work** for **Consultancy Services for Project Management including Supervision, Quality Control (PMC).**

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality Control for the work of "Construction of New Public toilets and Up gradation of existing Public toilets in West and Dasarahalli Zone". **EMD Amount (in Rs.): 12,500/-.**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Document may be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 06-07-2024. 2)** Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **10-07-2024 at 11.00 AM Office of the Executive Engineer (QA/QC), Room No. 101, Annex-3 Building, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002. 3)** Last Date & Time for Receipt of Tenders: **16-07-2024 upto 4.00 PM. 4)** Date of Opening of Technical Bid: **18-07-2024 at 4.30 PM.** Further details can be had from the above office.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, QA/QC Division, West Zone, BBMP.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer(QA/QC) Division, South Zone, Room No. 101, Annex-3 Building, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-02
No.: EE(QA/QC)/South/TEND/20/24-25 Date: 01.07.2024
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System)
(Only through E-Procurement System)
The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Quality Assurance / Quality Control Division invites request for proposal from interested persons / firms those **who have done similar type of work** for **Consultancy Services for Project Management including Supervision, Quality control (PMC) for** the below works through e-Procurement system by the Executive Engineer QA/QC, South Zone BBMP.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Providing PMC Services including Supervision, Quality control for the "Comprehensive Development by providing ornamental grill, pathway, shelter to GYM equipments, Children play equipments, new gazebo and repairs and additional works for sports complex in Madiwala and overall development of parks and playground in BTM Layout Constituency". **EMD amount in Rs.:** 19,000/-

Time Schedule / Calendar of events: (1) Tender document may be downloaded through e-portal from: **05.07.2024. (2)** Pre-bid meeting: **10.07.2024** at **11:00 a.m.** Office of the Executive Engineer (QA/QC), R.No. 101, Annex-3 Building, BBMP N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002. **(3)** Last date & time for receipt of tenders: **15.07.2024** upto **4:00 p.m. (4)** Opening of Technical bid: **18.07.2024** at **4:30 p.m.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/- Executive Engineer, QA/QC Division, South Zone, BBMP

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT DIVISION, VIJAYAPUR.
I.F.T.No:EE/PWD/VJP/PB/5054-MDR Impt's/2024-25/0850
Dated:29.06.2024
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-Procurement)
The- **Executive Engineer, Public Works Dept. Division, Vijayapur** Invites tenders from eligible tenderers (registered in Public Works Department) Total 2 works, As per standard bid documents KW-4 with 5054-MDR Improvements head of account costing of amount for Rs. 495.00 and Rs. 300.00 Lakhs, the EMD amount of Rs.7,43,000.00 and Rs. 4,50,000.00 for the works. Increase in G.S.T shall not be paid in the extended period of Contract for which the contractor alone is responsible for delay as determined by the authority while granting the extension of time. The calendar events of tenders, dates are fixed as follows (1) Pre-Bid Meeting for Contractors Date- 23-07-2024 upto 11.00 AM (2) Last Date for Receipt of Tenders Date-30-07-2024 upto 4.30 PM. (3) Opening of Technical Bid Date-31-07-2024 at 4:31 PM. (4) Opening of Financial Bid Date-01-08-2024 at 4:31 PM. Clause-3 Conditions of Standard Bid Document may be seen in Departmental Website i.e "https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in" and for more information may contact help desk Bangalore (Phone No. +91 80 46010000, +91 80 68948777) or office of the undersigned.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Vijayapur
DIPR/VIJAYAPURA/64/KSMCA/2024-25

INNOVATE KARNATAKA | GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA | K-tech
Request for Proposal (RFP)-3rd Call
Selection of an agency to design, develop and implement the Propel Platform
RFP NOTICE NO: ITBTST/2023-24/SE0005/CALL-3 dt.02/07/2024
Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS), Department of Electronics, IT, Bt intends to appoint an agency to Design, Develop and Implement the 'Propel' platform. In this regard, KITS invites proposals from the qualified agencies in response to the Request for Proposal (RFP).
The interested agencies are required to download the electronic copy of the Request for Proposals and upload the proposal (in PDF format) on Karnataka Public Procurement Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in through the bidder's Digital Signature Certificate (DSC).
Any notices/information related to this Request for Proposals in the future shall be available on https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only.
The deadline for submission is on or before 09.07.2024 by 5.00 P.M. Refer to the Request for Proposals document for eligibility criteria and other conditions.
Sd/-
Managing Director
KITS
KARNATAKA INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY (KITS)
Department of Electronics, IT, BT and S&T, Government of Karnataka
BMTC Central Offices Building, TTMC 'B' Block, 4th Floor, Shanthinagar, KH Road, Bangalore-560027. India
Phone : 080-2223-1006 / 8, E-mail: kitsgok@karnataka.gov.in
DIPR/CP/713/AKAR/2024-25

Andhra Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited (APSCSCL)
Head Office:10-152/1, Ashoknagar, Bandar Road, Vijayawada-520007
NATIONAL SHORT TENDER NOTICE
No: PDS /1/ICDS/THR/2024-25 Date: 01.07.2024
EMPANELMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF AGENCY THROUGH AP E-PROCUREMENT FOR PACKING OF RICE IN 3 KG & 50 KG PP BAGS AND SUPPLY TO ALL THE MLS POINTS OF (26) DISTRICTS IN ANDHRA PRADESH STATE
Andhra Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd. invites National Short Tenders for empanelment and appointment of Agency/packer for Packing of Rice in 3 kg & 50 kg ecofriendly PP Bags for a quantity of 18493.383 Mts. for the period from August, 2024 to July, 2025 through AP e-procurement auction platform and to supply to all the MLS Points of (26) districts in Andhra Pradesh State.
All the interested Agencies/Packers in All Over India may visit **www.apscscl.in** & **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** to view and download tender documents free of cost.
Interested tenderers to submit bids should register in website **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** and should also obtain Digital Signature Certificates from any Certifying Authority in India. The details and procedure for obtaining Digital Signature Certificates are mentioned in the website **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** or **contact the helpdesk of procurement portal Phone: 08645-246370/71/72/73/74.**
Last date for registration and completion of formalities for the e-auction shall be up to 09.07.2024 upto 5.00 p.m and the tentative date of online e-reverse auction through AP e-procurement platform would be 11-07-2024 at 11 a.m onwards.
Sd/- VC & Managing Director.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Electrical), South Division, South Zone Office Complex, 9th Main, 9th Cross, Jayanagara 2nd Block, Bengaluru - 560 011.
No. EE/Ele/S/Qtn/01/2024-25 Date:01.07.2024
INVITATION OF QUOTATION
(Through GOK KPP Portal only)
The Executive Engineer, Electrical, South Division, invites quotation rates from eligible bidders as detailed in the table below:
Operation and Maintenance of street lighting system including replacement of damaged / failed/ fused out components like Lamps, Tubes, Chokes, Igniters, capacitors, Switches, Wires, Holders, Starters and Switching ON/OFF of street lights at specified timing, furnishing maintenance reports everyday, Maintaining movement log of ladder jeep by installing dedicated GPS system with required hardware and software etc., complete, so as to ensure efficient burning of street lights as detailed in tender documents.

Sl. No.	Item Name	Unit	Qty
1	36/40 watt fluoroscent tube street lighting systems.	Each	1
2	125 watt HPMV park lighting systems.	Each	1
3	70 watt HPMH Street lighting systems.	Each	1
4	150 watt HPMH Street Light lighting systems.	Each	1
5	250 watt HPMH Street Light lighting systems.	Each	1
6	400 watt HPMH Street Light /High Mast lighting systems.	Each	1
7	150 watt HPSV Street lighting systems.	Each	1
8	250 watt HPSV Street lighting systems.	Each	1
9	400 watt HPSV Street Light / High Mast lighting systems.	Each	1
10	24 to 45 watt LED Street lighting systems.	Each	1
11	50 to 72 watt LED Street lighting systems.	Each	1
12	90 watt LED Street lighting systems.	Each	1
13	100 to 120 watt LED Street lighting systems.	Each	1
14	150 to 180 watt LED Street lighting systems.	Each	1
15	200 to 300 watt LED Street lighting systems.	Each	1
16	Conducting Survey of street lights with parameters specified by Engineer in Charge.	Each	1

1) Tender clarification at the office of the Executive Engineer, Electrical, South, before : 03.07.2024 upto 4.00 p.m. **2)** Last Date & time for receipt of tenders:**11.07.2024 upto 4:00 P.M. 3)** Opening of financial bids:**12.07.2024 at 4:30 P.M.** Further details can be had from the office of the undersigned.
Sd/- Executive Engineer(Electrical), South Division.

Sense of uncertainty

Amid doubt and fear, new criminal laws take over an unready system

The three new criminal laws have come into force in the country, amidst widespread fears that the policing and judicial systems are not yet ready for their introduction. Barring reports of some rudimentary training to station-house police personnel, some workshops here and there, and an upgrade to the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems, which will help ease the filing of complaints in electronic form, the exact level of preparedness among the upper and lower echelons of the police is unknown. Earlier the government had appointed July 1 as the day on which the three laws – the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita in place of the Indian Penal Code, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita to supersede the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, which has replaced the Indian Evidence Act – will come into force. It appears that the Union government decided that it is better to implement them and let the police, courts and lawyers fumble their way towards a rough transition than await a time when everyone involved in the administration of criminal law is brought up to speed. How much the initial period of possible confusion will last is anybody's guess. There is little doubt that more time ought to have been given to the police and legal fraternity to prepare themselves before the codes were brought into force.

The very names of the new laws appear obscure, with many questioning why there is no English equivalent for the new codes, and why they should bear unfamiliar Hindi names. There was no change in the name of the criminal procedure code when the 1898 original was replaced with a new one in 1973. There is also a persistent feeling that the laws were not fully debated in the legislature – even though a Standing Committee of Parliament went into the draft and recommended some changes – or widely discussed with civil society. There is a looming fear that some of the new provisions, especially the one relating to police custody that can be availed of in multiple tranches, will sharply empower the police to the citizen's disadvantage. The inclusion of 'terrorism' as an offence in ordinary penal law in addition to the present special anti-terrorism law is bound to cause confusion. The Centre's announcement that States are free to make their own amendments is fine, but there is no assurance that such amendments will get early Presidential assent. Some procedural reforms such as registering FIRs regardless of jurisdiction and introduction of videography of searches and seizures are welcome initiatives, but there is a palpable sense of uncertainty over the overall impact of these new laws.

Waiting for a reformist

Iran's theocratic state is unlikely to give space to a popular reformist

As no candidate managed to win 50% vote in the first round of Iran's snap presidential elections, the country is headed for a run-off on July 5 between the top two vote getters – reformist Masoud Pezeshkian and conservative Saeed Jalili. Mr. Pezeshkian, a surgeon and lawmaker who was the Minister of Health in the government of reformist President Mohammed Khatami, won 42.5% votes, while Mr. Jalili, Iran's former chief nuclear negotiator, got 38.8% votes. Conservative Parliament Speaker Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf finished third with 13.8% vote share. The election, which was necessitated by President Ebrahim Raisi's death in a helicopter crash in May, is taking place at a crucial time for Iran. There is much public anger amid economic hardships and heightened cultural policing. Iran is facing pressure to rein in its proxies, mainly Yemen's Houthis and Lebanon's Hezbollah, particularly after the Israel-Hamas war began. Iran is also expanding its nuclear programme, defying international pressure, and tensions with Israel rocketed in April when Tehran launched a missile attack towards the Jewish state after its embassy building in Damascus was bombed. A new President, reformist or conservative, is unlikely to change core policies, but the highest elected official in the republic can have a say on how critical policies are being implemented.

In the past, reformist politicians such as Mr. Khatami and Hassan Rouhani won huge mandates on promises of change, but did little in opening up the system that is tightly controlled by the Shia clergy. The failure to reform the system from within and alleviate the economic woes, which are a result of the western sanctions, have turned sections of the electorate apathetic. There was a time when Iran's clerical rulers would invoke the high participation of voters as a measure of popular legitimacy for the revolutionary regime, which is partly representative and fully theocratic. If the voter turnout was above 80% in 2009, it was a record low this year – 39.9% This is not a surprise. All branches of the state are under conservative control, and several reformist politicians were barred from contesting. Even if reformists win, they are constrained by unelected institutions such as the office of the Supreme Leader and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. The near-total dominance of the conservatives over the institutions and the clergy's refusal to change are hollowing out even the limited democracy that the revolution had promised. Economic hardships and repression over the Islamic code are adding fuel to the fire. Iran can take pride that it held a presidential election amidst crises. But its rulers should also take a cue from the growing dissent and falling voter interest, and be ready for political and social reforms.

Israel is facing a strategic defeat in Gaza

Stanly Johny

When Israel declared its war on Gaza, following a cross-border attack by Hamas on October 7, 2023, killing at least 1,200 people, Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said his forces would "crush" the Islamist militant group. Since then, Israeli leaders have said, several times, that "eliminating" Hamas is the top objective of the war. Gaza, the tiny Palestinian enclave sandwiched between Israel proper and the Mediterranean Sea, has practically been under an Israeli blockade since 2007. After the October 7 attack, Israel imposed a total siege on Gaza. It first pounded the enclave with heavy air strikes before launching an all-out invasion.

The war has destroyed much of Gaza. Just look at the numbers. Gaza's pre-war population was 2.3 million. Almost all of them have been displaced. More than 37,000 people, that is roughly 1.7% of the enclave's population, have been killed, and over 86,000 people, that is roughly 3.7% of the population, wounded. Did this massive onslaught on the Palestinians help Israel meet its objective? On June 19, after 256 days of fighting, Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari, a spokesperson of the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF), said Hamas cannot be eliminated. "Hamas is an idea, Hamas is a party. It's rooted in the hearts of the people – any one who thinks we can eliminate Hamas [read Netanyahu] is wrong," he said.

Lack of victory

Israel wanted a quick and decisive victory against Hamas. It wanted to destroy Hamas's governing structures, defeat its highly-trained brigades, destroy its vast tunnel networks and kill its top leadership. Israel also wanted to free the over 240 hostages in Hamas custody, and bolster its deterrence that was weakened by the Hamas attack. However, after more than eight months of fighting, even the IDF questions the achievability of the objectives set by Mr. Netanyahu. But that is not the only bad news Israel is dealing with.

When Israel attacked Gaza, Hezbollah, Lebanon's powerful Iran-backed Shia militia, launched controlled attacks from southern Lebanon to Israel's Upper Galilee region on the northern border. Hezbollah's rocket attacks and shelling have displaced some 60,000 Israelis. Israel has carried out dozens of strikes in Lebanon targeting Hezbollah, but has stopped short of launching an all-out war. Israel faces a dilemma in the north.

The controlled aggression does little in deterring Hezbollah. The displaced cannot return to their homes unless there is a ceasefire. And, Hezbollah has made it clear that it will not cease fire unless there is a ceasefire in Gaza. Another option Israel has is to invade Lebanon. The last time Hezbollah and Israel fought a full-fledged war was in 2006, which did not end well for Israel. And if, after eight months, Israel is still fighting Hamas in a besieged enclave of Gaza, a war with Hezbollah, which is deeply enmeshed into Lebanon's state and Shia society, will be a lot more dangerous and difficult.

> The Palestine question is back in West Asia's geopolitics – with an emphasis on the two-state solution – marking a defeat for Israel

The Iran challenge

The second problem is Iran. Israel had adopted a two-pronged military approach when it launched the Gaza war. The first was to pound Gaza, while the second was to attack Hamas's allies across the region. Besides Hezbollah, Israel carried out air strikes targeting Iranian military officers in Syria. But Israel miscalculated Iran's response when it attacked the Iranian embassy complex in Damascus on April 1, killing senior generals. Iran launched an unprecedented barrage of missiles and drones. So, if one of the key objectives of Mr. Netanyahu's war on Gaza was to bolster Israel's deterrence against non-state actors, one of its outcomes was to weaken Israel's conventional deterrence, which had been solid at least since 1973.

Moreover, Iran has signalled that it has been dramatically expanding its nuclear programme, with higher production of enriched uranium at two of its facilities, at Fordow and Natanz. Israel has always seen Iran's nuclear programme as its number one security threat.

Yet, Israel does not have any practical pathways to slow Iran down at this point. Israel itself is mired in Gaza and is stuck with a slow-burning war with Hezbollah. After Iran's attack on Israel on April 14, the Jewish nation has not attacked Iranian officers in other countries. It does not want an open war with Iran, at least for now. The United States, Israel's main ally, has made it clear that it does not want a war with Iran either. This gives Tehran a window of opportunity to fast track its nuclear programme. And Iran is at it.

The third problem is the setback to the Arab normalisation process. Before the October 7 attack, Israel was set to expand its regional cooperation with the Arab world. In 2020, it had already reached a breakthrough normalisation agreement with four Arab countries, including the United Arab Emirates. The U.S. was mediating talks between Israel and Saudi Arabia, which, in the words of the Kingdom's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, were in a very advanced stage in September 2023. But today, the Saudi normalisation plan has been shelved. Riyadh says there will not be peace with Israel unless there is a clear path towards the creation of a Palestinian state "based on the 1967 border with East Jerusalem as its capital".

Fourth, Israel is facing global isolation for its conduct of the war. There have been two United Nations Security Council resolutions that called for a ceasefire in Gaza – which Israel has ignored. There is a genocide case against Israel at the International Court of Justice (ICJ). The ICJ, which in January had ordered Israel to take steps "to prevent a genocide in Gaza", asked the Jewish state, in May, to stop its offensive in Rafah. This was also ignored.

A prosecutor at The International Criminal Court (ICC) has sought arrest warrants against the top leadership of Israel and Hamas. The war has also seen student protests across universities in the West, piling up pressure on their governments to take a stronger position towards Israel. Though the U.S. President Joe Biden keeps supporting Israel's war, dissenting voices are rising in Washington.

The Palestine question

Finally, Israel has always wanted to keep its occupation of Palestine as a non-issue when it deals with the rest of the world – occupation without consequences. A key message of the 2020 Abraham Accords was that the Palestine question had become immaterial even for Arab countries when it comes to engagement with Israel. But Hamas's attack on October 7 and Israel's subsequent war on Gaza have brought the Palestine question back to the centre of West Asia's geopolitics. Now, there is an added emphasis on the two-state solution. In May 2024, three European countries, Ireland, Norway and Spain, recognised the state of Palestine, and more countries are to follow. This is a long-term setback to Israel's policy of perpetual marginalisation of the Palestine question.

So, the war in Gaza remains unfinished and the crisis with Hezbollah is escalating. Iran has put an end to Israel's attacks on its officers, for now, and is expanding its nuclear programme. The Houthis are keeping the Americans busy in the Red Sea. Israel is facing international rebuke for the conduct of the war, while the Palestine issue is back centre stage. Mr. Netanyahu wanted a strategic environment in which Israel's primacy is reinforced, but he is getting one that is more hostile to Israel than it was before October 7. There is no quick and easy way out of this mess which Mr. Netanyahu has led his country into. Maybe that is why he keeps fighting because once the war is over, the spectres it has unleashed will come to haunt the Jewish state. If the war continues without clear objectives, it will turn the strategic environment even more hostile. This is Israel's dilemma. No country can advance its interests permanently only through wars. Israel's leaders should have a comprehensive review of its strategies (if any) and tactics. If Mr. Netanyahu is unable to do this, Israelis should start looking beyond him.

stanly.johny@thehindu.co.in

Glossing over unemployment, its high electoral price

Subramanian Swamy

a former Union Minister of Commerce and Law and Justice

The Indian economy requires 25 million-plus jobs to be generated over the next five years in order to employ all those who are presently unemployed in this nation.

The Narendra Modi government has claimed that the Indian economy, judged by GDP, grew at an impressively rapid pace of 8% last year. But even if that claim is true, it has not created an adequate number of appropriate jobs going by the current unemployment in India.

Using the latest official statistics, the unemployment rate for people aged 15 years or above may have dipped from 4.2% in 2021 to 3.1% in 2023, but this is not commensurate with the rapid GDP growth rate of 8%.

As seen in the results of the 2024 general election, it is clear that the Bharatiya Janata Party has paid the price for the setback, thus losing its majority in Parliament. It has had to form a coalition government with parties that follow a contrary economic ideology.

Inequality gap is widening

The gap between the haves and have-nots has widened in the last two decades. Moreover, throughout the past decade under BJP central rule, official statistics reveal a sharp rise in wealth inequality. About 1% of India's population now owns 40% of the country's wealth. This is terrible for any democratic population and state, if not for the stability of the nation.

This is what is graphically called "K-shaped" inequality in the economy, i.e., consumption/income for a few is rising, while for a large proportion of the less well-to-do population, it is sliding, i.e., it is decreasing 'K'-wise. In public meetings, Prime Minister Modi has claimed that because of GDP growth in the last nine years of his tenure, the economy has lifted 25 crore people out of poverty (by investing heavily in capital expenditure) Government economists also claim that the Modi government has succeeded in establishing sustained and fast-paced economic growth, making people happy. This remains to be seen in the next three years.

> There have been few takers for the government's claims about GDP growth, reflected in the election results

In fact, the electoral outcome has raised questions about this claim which experts of the government vide news media had touted – that India is the "fastest-growing large economy in the world".

On the contrary, there are few takers for this claim in the electorate. This is now confirmed by the sharp fall in the bench strength of the BJP's Members of Parliament in the Lok Sabha. The decline has in fact been shattering for the party, which now has to rely on two – one State each – "regional" parties.

The BJP government's economic management needs to be overhauled. However, the recent announcement of the appointments of the cabinet Ministers dashes these hopes.

Growth could slip

The Modi government frequently claims that the 2023-24 GDP growth of 8.2% has come on top of the strong 7% growth in 2022-23. How this was calculated has not been disclosed.

India's growth in the last two years has been pushed via a significantly large Budget deficit for funding the government's massive capital expenditure. But this has not been done by structural investments in the industrial, agricultural, and service sectors. It may be recalled that the GDP growth rate in the fourth quarter of 2019-20, fell from 8% to 3.8%. GDP growth rate in 2015-16, i.e., April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016 when compared to April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015, was about 8%. Each financial year has four quarters, namely, April 1-June 30, July 1-September 30, October 1-December 31, and January 1-March 31. In the pre-COVID-19 quarter, January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020, when compared to January 1, 2019-March 31, 2019, GDP growth declined to a 3.4% annual equivalent year.

Hence, the 8.2% growth registered in 2023-24 by the Finance Ministry appears to be a flash in the pan. It is doubtful if it can be maintained in 2024-25. Indeed, those who study serious quantitative economics expect growth to slip further.

Need for a new strategy

During the last decade, this government's economists have frequently called for the "next generation of reforms" to accelerate national economic growth. It remains to be seen if this is possible as the BJP has lost its majority in Parliament and its allies do not have the same economic perspective as the BJP.

Moreover, in agriculture, 92% of the jobs are in the unorganised sector. In industry and services, 73% of the jobs created are in the small- and medium-informal sections. The government and formal private sector account for a mere 27% of jobs. Thus, India now needs a new long-term economic strategy – a tall order as the BJP lacks a cohesive majority in Parliament and has no economist to speak frankly to the relevant Ministers.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Politics, arrests

While one is in agreement with the reasoning of the Jharkhand High Court in the granting of bail to JMM leader Hemant Soren, one should also not forget the other side. It is accepted that politics in India is 'corrupted and criminalised'. That we have only a few from the political class in jail is another matter. The High Court's findings are subject to appeal. The High Court has also said that Mr. Soren may not be guilty. Which means that he could be guilty too. For the common man, his worry is that probity and politics are poles apart. Finally, the allegation is that central agencies are harsh on the political adversaries of the ruling party. But this should not be cause for always labelling the actions of these agencies as biased.

P.R.V. Raja,
Pandalam, Kerala

Oath and language

Bansuri Swaraj, a newly elected Member of the Lok Sabha (BJP), was in the media limelight recently for having taken her oath in Parliament in Sanskrit. The grammatical gender of the words in Ms. Swaraj's oath was masculine. The Lok Sabha Secretariat does not seem to have taken care to tailor the language to suit a lady. Though minor, this lapse is typical of the government's lackadaisical attitude and incompetence. While taking one's oath in an ancient and classical language, it must be ensured that the language is at least grammatically correct.

G.L. Krishna,
Bengaluru

Cigarette sales

I recently travelled from Chennai to Kolkata, and again from Chennai to New Delhi by air. I found that at all these airports, cigarettes were being sold from kiosks near the boarding gates. There were also 'smoking rooms' next to them. In fact, the cigarette cartons in the sales kiosks are placed at a level where children can read the labels. There is also the strong tobacco odour leaking out of the 'smoking rooms'. When I called the 'grievance cell' at Chennai airport to complain, saying that many of us in the waiting area object to the presence of the kiosk and the smoking room (the kiosk is outside gate 11, and obstructs the gate), the gentleman patronisingly told me that "many people have complained that they are not able to buy cigarettes and smoke in the airport". When I asked him how smoking can be promoted in an airport when the government has banned smoking in public places, he told me that they were acting within the authority of the law.
I find it shocking that the government and/or airport managements are promoting such a bad habit for a few measly rupees.

D. Indumathi,
Chennai

Farmer grievance

Cluster beans are being cultivated as a commercial crop on an extent of 10,000 acres in Kovilpatti, Thoothukudi district. When it comes to applying for crop loans and crop insurance, there are hurdles. The area under this crop is not recorded by the agriculture, horticulture and revenue departments.

A. Kaja Nazimudeen,
Eruvadi, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu

A tool to ensure complete voter anonymity

Ashok Lavasa
former Election Commissioner of India

The Janata Dal (United) candidate from Sitamarhi Lok Sabha seat, Devesh Chandra Thakur, was in the news for 'breaching' the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) no longer in force and rekindling interest in a dormant writ petition (W.P.). Mr. Thakur was in a spot for saying, "Those (from Muslim and Yadav communities) who want to come can come, have tea and snacks, but don't expect any help" and thus explicitly suggesting that the two sections should not expect him to help in the redressal of their grievances as they had not supported him in the elections.

Mr. Thakur's statement was a straightforward assertion of a transactional relationship that bordered on defiling democratic principles. It was against the constitutional spirit behind the relationship of the citizens and their elected representatives. What it implied was that he would overlook the interest of the Muslims and the Yadavs. While the JD(U) issued statements to blunt the condemnation that came his way, the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), which had been defeated in the constituency, asserted that a leader after winning an election becomes the representative of an area and that "he should work for everyone without categorising caste and community".

The ECI's proposal

The cardinal spirit behind an impartial election is that the voter is able to cast his vote without the fear of retribution or feeling induced by the promise of a reward. It was in order to discourage the politics of vendetta or vote bargain that voter secrecy was embedded in Rule 56 of the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961, enjoining the returning officer to "reject a ballot paper if it bears any mark or writing by which the elector can be identified". Similarly, while counting, ballot papers of different ballot boxes were mixed to avoid group targeting of voters based on the voting trends in a particular area. However, with the introduction of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), this 'mixing' cannot be done, which has led to demands of introducing a totaliser to avoid identification of areas according to their voting behaviour.

The totaliser as a technique to mask booth-level voting patterns was mooted in 2007 as a solution to the problem of post-election harassment of voters. It was examined and evolved by the authorised EVM manufacturers in consultation with the Technical Experts Committee of the Election Commission of India (ECI), and demonstrated in 2008 before political parties who had "no objection" to the use of totaliser. In March 2009, it was used on a trial basis in bye-elections to the Legislative Assembly of Meghalaya and Uttar Pradesh. Thereafter, the issue has shuttled between the ECI, government, and the Courts, with the government pussyfooting the proposal till 2014 and then not favouring it altogether.

Following the Madras High Court order of August 2011 in W.P. 11919/2011 directing the government to consider the ECI's recommendation of amending the relevant Rules for introducing the totaliser, the government sought to ascertain the time required to fully deploy it. The EC said it would take about four months. Thereafter, there was a lull. In August 2013, the ECI again requested the government to amend the 1961 Rules.

In April 2014, W.P. 422/2014 Yogesh Gupta v. EC was filed before the Supreme Court, seeking a direction to the EC "to declare the results of every Parliamentary Constituency as a whole and to not declare results of every voting machine separately, so as to preserve the right of privacy in voting" since booth-wise declaration of results provided a "tool in the hands of the political parties to intimidate the voters". In its counter-affidavit filed in June 2014, the EC reaffirmed its commitment to the totaliser whereupon the court sought to know why amendment to Rules was required and whether the EC could issue instructions for the use of totaliser under existing Rules. The EC reiterated that amendment of Rules was necessary.

> The Election Commission has repeatedly proposed the use of totaliser to avoid identification of areas according to voting behaviour. But the government has said it does not serve a larger public interest

Political parties' views

Meanwhile, in its 255th Report, the Law Commission of India endorsed the EC's proposal to introduce totaliser in counting of votes. However, in its affidavit in the Yogesh Gupta matter in February 2016, the government stated that the use of totaliser served no larger public interest. The EC expressed its "firm view" that using totalisers for counting of votes was "absolutely necessary" for protecting the interests of the voters. It held a meeting of recognised political parties for demonstration of totaliser in March 2016. The Bahujan Samaj Party, the Congress, and the Nationalist Congress Party supported the use of totaliser, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) advised a phased introduction, the CPI did not give a view, and the Bharatiya Janata Party opposed it. The EC conveyed the views of the parties to the government reaffirming its original proposal. In 2016, the government referred the matter to a group of ministers which concluded that revelation of booth-wise voting patterns would have a beneficial effect in increasing development activities.

In October 2017, another W.P (C) No. 927/2017 Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay v. Union of India was filed before the Supreme Court, seeking "appropriate steps to use totaliser" for counting of votes. In this W.P. which is tagged with the earlier one, the EC again submitted that the time was ripe for introducing totaliser. The government counsel raised the issue of the possible leakage of data from the EVM. The matter remains dormant since March 2018. It is worth debating if technology will help us rise above our prejudices or proclivities.

The Kerala Left needs to look in the mirror

It cannot counter the Right by adopting the latter's playbook or by electoral engineering

STATE OF PLAY

Nissim Mannathukkaren

The 2024 Lok Sabha election results in Kerala should ring the alarm bells for the Left. Not just because the BJP won a historic first seat, but also because the NDA registered a 3.57%-point increase in vote share to 19.21%; and the BJP crossed 30% of the vote share in three Lok Sabha constituencies (from one in 2019), came first in 11 Assembly segments (from one in 2019), and second in nine segments (from seven in 2019). Some of this was at the expense of the Left strongholds. Nevertheless, this moment is not a mere electoral setback occasioned by anti-incumbency, public finance troubles of the CPI(M)-led government, and allegations of corruption against it.

The communist movement in Kerala is one of the most important mobilisations of the peasant and the working classes in the Global South. Its success was in how it tried to address together a variety of exclusions based on class, caste, and linguistic identities. This was achieved through struggles and entrenchment in the arena outside elections: in civil society and the cultural sphere. This hegemony of the Left "common sense" in Kerala society is what is being challenged with the rise of Hindutva.

This rise has been foretold in the non-electoral arena – for example, the fact that Kerala has had among the highest numbers of RSS shakhas in India. This has only accentuated in the recent years with their heightened activities around temples and festivals. Hindu nationalism, has followed, ironically, the Italian Marxist philosopher Antonio Gramsci's prescription for communist revolutionaries in a capitalist society. That is, to be engaged in a "war of position", a long-drawn-out cultural struggle to counter the dominant ideology and gain spaces of influence for one's own weaker ideology.

The rightwards shift of the cultural sphere is an outcome. Despite winning the 2021 State elections, the Left has been hard pressed to meet these challenges. The communist parties have de-radicalised since the achievement of major economic goals such as the land reforms. Their conversion into electoral machines means that mass movements and ideological struggles were given the short shrift.

The Sabarimala temple entry for women issue is an example where the Left, after initially seeking to counter the Right, had to soften its stance. Rather than proactively fashion new ideological programmes, the Left has been reacting to the Right's rise producing vacillations and contradictions. Thus, it counters the popularity of Sangh Parivar's celebration of religious festivals like Janmashtami by organising its own "secular" processions on the same days, in which, on occasion, religious deities have slipped in. In order to offset its potential vote loss among the majority community, it takes up issues like that of Palestine. However, it fails to call out the terror by Hamas against civilians.

The Left is also set back further by the development of authoritarian tendencies, and a personality cult around Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan. This is unprecedented in Kerala, and in the Indian Left who practise collective leadership along with institutionalised processes for internal democracy. These tendencies have translated into intolerance towards dissent through police cases against political leaders and journalists.

It would be catastrophic for the Left to believe that it can counter the Right by adopting the latter's playbook or by electoral engineering. It can only happen through a reinvigorated democracy in which the tasks of class, caste, and gender equality are completed. Dalits and Adivasis are still at the bottom of the socioeconomic hierarchy of Kerala, belying the promise of communist equality. If the marginalised find the new imaginations offered by the Hindutva forces attractive, it is also located in secular disenchantments. In the present elections, amongst the OBC Ezhavas/Thiyyas, 32% voted for the NDA.

In 1996, the Left government had initiated the People's Plan, participatory planning from the bottom-up. Since then, the local governments have lost some of their critical powers. A reimagination of Kerala's welfare state requires a strengthening of its local democracy against destructive top-down development projects or economic populism, which again mirror the Right.

Nissim Mannathukkaren is Professor, International Development Studies, Dalhousie University, Canada

At the end of Pride Month, assessing the LGBTQIA+ communities' rights

The decriminalisation of Section 377 in 2018 was a huge victory for LGBTQIA+ communities, but the road towards equality before the law is long

DATA POINT

Nitika Francis

Every year, June is observed as Pride Month the world over. The contributions of members of the LGBTQIA+ communities are commemorated, and love, diversity, and acceptance are celebrated. This year, too, pride marches were held across India, not only in metropolises, but also in smaller towns.

The rights and status of the LGBTQIA+ communities vary across the world. **Map 1** shows the legal status of same-sex acts in different countries as of 2024. At present, as many as 59 countries penalise any expression of queerness. In countries such as Ghana and Indonesia, those engaging in homosexual activities are punished with imprisonment or worse, death.

While 79 countries have banned same-sex marriage, 37 have fully legalised it. **Map 2** shows the status of same-sex marriage in different countries around the world as of 2024.

A few countries have also left the communities unrecognised, rendering their status ambiguous. India falls under this category. Some have allowed same-sex couples to opt for civil unions. While the Supreme Court of India decriminalised homosexuality in 2018 by partially striking down Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code, the Indian queer communities' plea to the Court to legalise same-sex unions was rejected in October 2023. Indian courts have acknowledged same-sex couples' right to cohabitation.

Although being queer is not a crime in India any more, people who identify as queer still face discrimination, harassment, and exclusion. They are not afforded the legal aid necessary to protect themselves from discrimination.

Transgender and intersex employees in India can seek legal recourse in the face of discrimination on the basis of gender in hiring, promotion, termination, or harassment. The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, prohibits unfair treatment with regard to employment, education, healthcare, public facilities, residence, and more.

India is one of the four countries in the world that provides employee legal aid only on the basis of gender identity, including transgender persons. However, employees are not guaranteed any legal aid when discriminated against on the basis of sexual orientation. There is no means of legally registering or identifying one's sexuality. Legal aid is available on the basis of sexual orientation in 27 countries.

In 90 countries around the world, there are no legal protections available to queer employees. **Map 3** shows different countries' stances on employee discrimination on the basis of gender and sexuality, as of 2024.

In India, members of the LGBTQIA+ communities cannot be recognised as co-parents to an adopted child. However, as per the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, a prospective adoptive parent is allowed to adopt a child irrespective of marital status.

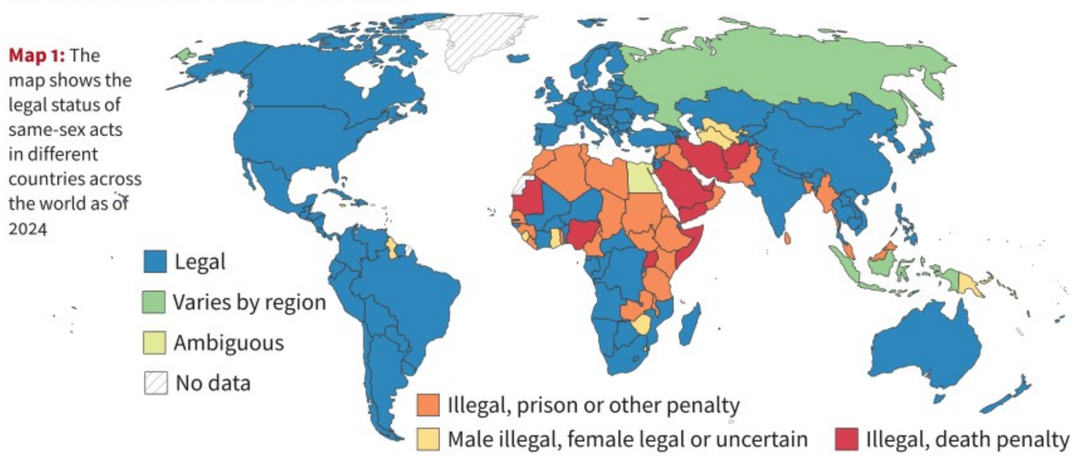
Currently, 39 countries around the world allow same-sex parents to adopt children, and 45 countries have banned the same. However, 100 countries have arrangements similar to India, wherein single parents are allowed to adopt children, with certain conditions.

The decriminalisation of Section 377 was undoubtedly a huge victory for the LGBTQIA+ communities in India.

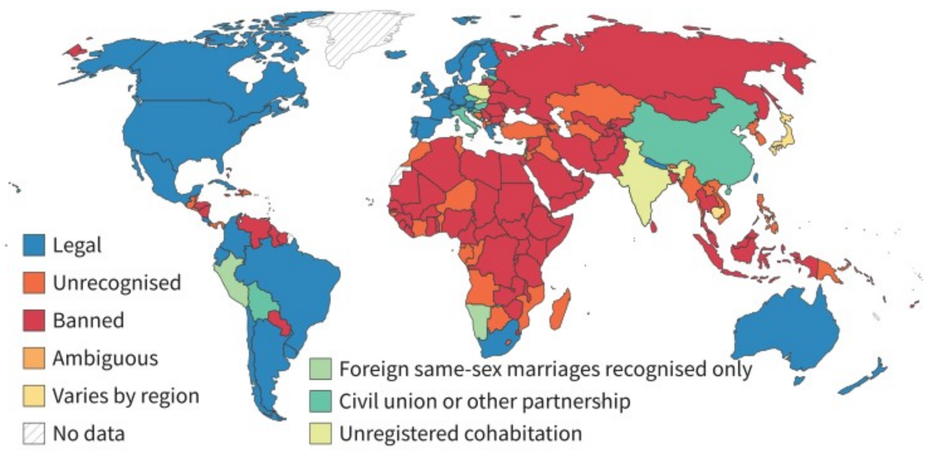
However, queer people still struggle to fight for their constitutional rights, for acceptance in their families, for recognition and growth in their jobs, for equality and justice in their everyday lives and interactions, and overall inclusion.

Pride and prejudice

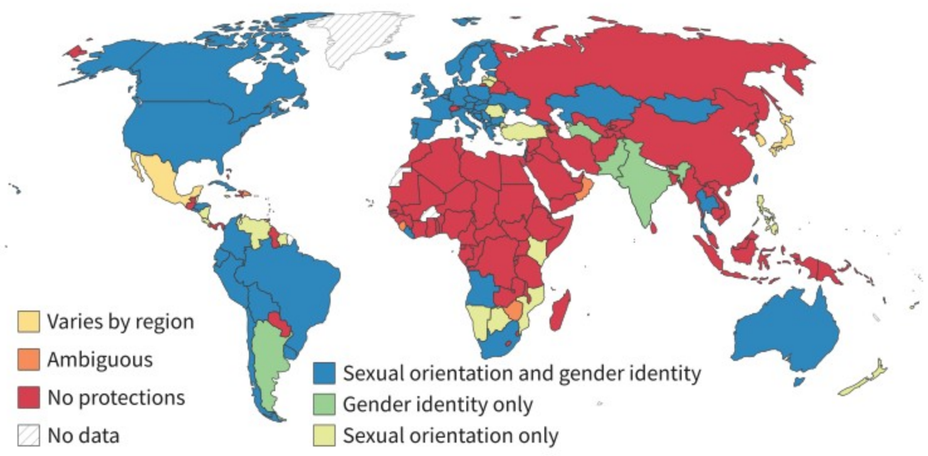
The maps were sourced from Our World in Data



Map 1: The map shows the legal status of same-sex acts in different countries across the world as of 2024



Map 2: The map depicts the status of same-sex marriage in different countries around the world as of 2024



Map 3: The map shows different countries' stances on employee discrimination on the basis of gender and sexuality as of 2024

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 2, 1974

President Peron of Argentina dead

Buenos Aires, July 1: Gen. Peron, one of the most loved and hated figures in Latin American history, died in bed to-day at the age of 78 during his third term as Argentina's President. Vice-President Isabel Peron, who became acting President on Saturday and assumed her husband's mandate on his death, made the announcement in a brief emotional speech which she read over the nationwide radio as she fought back tears. By assuming the Presidency, Mrs. Peron, who is 43, became the first woman to head a government in male-oriented Latin America. Person was one of the few Latin American strong men to capture the imagination of the world. He was first elected President in 1946 after taking part in a military coup three years earlier. He served 9 stormy years until he was thrown out by the army in 1955 in a bloody coup engineered by political foes in the middle classes, the Intelligentsia and the Roman Catholic Church. He barely escaped with his life, fleeing into exile aboard a Paraguavan gunboat. Yet 18 years later on June 20, 1973, at 77, Peron came home to thundering cheers from many of the same people who applauded his flight. His return was marred when violence broke out among the three million supporters who turned out to greet him. About 30 persons were killed and 500 wounded. His way home was paved by his party which won a crushing majority in free elections in March. Person had been allowed back in the country in November 1972, but said then he would not run for President and returned to Spain. At that time he chose Hector J. Campora who as his handpicked candidate for the Presidentship won the March elections by almost 50 per cent. Campora resigned on Peron's return so that Peron himself could run for the Presidentship.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 2, 1924

Printing ink industry

Simla, July 2: The printing ink industry came up before the Tariff Board yesterday for protection. The Hooghly Ink Company which is stated to be the only concern which manufactures printing ink in substantial quantities in India, through Mr. Richardson, Managing Director, pressed for protection. The Company is a private limited company and there is no Indian capital nor are there Indians on the directorate.

From Page One

New criminal laws will prioritise justice: Shah

The Home Minister said there was a "leak-proof" system to store data and accountability had been fixed for those who record the videos and upload the data.

The Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) mandated compulsory audiovisual recording of search and seizure in each criminal case and mandatory forensic examination in all cases where an offence attracted punishment of seven years or more. The recordings would have to be submitted before the court electronically "without delay."

Addressing a press conference, the Minister said various misconceptions were being spread about the new criminal laws, which aimed to create confusion in the minds of public about these laws. He said every aspect of the new laws had been discussed extensively with different stakeholders for four years and no law in independent India had been discussed at such length.

"Many disputed provisions which were continuing from the British time and were creating problems for the people have been removed and new Sections have been added which are of relevance today," the Home Minister stated.

He said the crime on sedition, made by the British, had been abolished in the new laws. A new Section had been added for anti-national activities, under which there was a provision of severe punishment for those who damage the unity and integrity of India.

Mr. Shah said 99.9% police stations across the country had been computerised and the process of generating e-record had already started in 2019. He said that zero-FIR, e-FIR and charge sheet would be in a digital format.

He said forensic investigation was mandatory in offences punishable by seven years or more, which would help speed up justice and take the conviction rate up to 90%. Trained manpower would be required for this purpose and in the country, there would be more than 40,000 trained manpower after three years. The Home Minister said the Union Cabinet recently decided to set up campuses of Forensic Science University and establish six Central Forensic Laboratories in nine more States.

GST revenue growth slows to three-year low

In June 2023, IGST collections stood at ₹80,292 crore, including ₹39,035 crore collected on import of goods. From that kitty, the government had settled ₹36,224 crore to CGST and ₹30,269 crore to SGST. Compared to that settlement, June 2024 has seen a 9.3% rise in CGST and 10.8% in SGST apportioned from the IGST collections.

Tax experts noted the slowdown in June's revenue growth relative to recent months. "However, overall GST collections have shown an encouraging trend over the last few months," said Pratik Jain, partner at PwC India. "Industry hopes that the trend will enable the GST Council to restart the rationalisation of GST's rate structure, as indicated in the Council's last meeting on June 22," he added.

Govt. undecided on deadline for boundaries

"States would also require five to six months to prepare the apparatus. Since it will be a digital Census, training will have to be given afresh for the entire process. If dates for freezing of administrative boundaries are not extended, the first phase of Census and an update of the National Population Register (NPR) can be done in 2025," the former Census official said.

The Janata Dal (United), a key ally of the ruling BJP, has demanded a caste census. On June 6, senior JD(U) leader K.C Tyagi told *The Hindu*, "A caste census is being demanded by all. Bihar has paved the way for it. Even the Prime Minister did not oppose the caste census, so we will pursue it."

Medha Patkar gets jail term for 'defaming' L-G

"The offence entailed a maximum punishment of simple imprisonment of up to two years or fine or both," the court said.

Mr. Saxena was the president of the National Council of Civil Liberties. In 2000, the non-governmental organisation published an advertisement against Ms. Patkar's movement which opposed the construction of a dam on the Narmada river. In a press statement soon after, she said Mr. Saxena was a "coward" and not a "patriot".

Mr. Saxena approached a court in Ahmedabad which took cognisance of the offence. The case was moved to the Saket court in 2003 pursuant to the orders of the Supreme Court.

Convicting Ms. Patkar, the court said her actions were deliberate and malicious. She imputed that Mr. Saxena was an agent of the Government of Gujarat, which and her comments were a direct attack on the petitioner's personal character and loyalty to the nation.

The court said the accused had failed to provide any evidence to counter the claims that she did not intend or foresee the harm these imputations would cause to the complainant.

Will ensure complete synergy with Navy, Air Force, says Army chief

General Dwivedi says the Army faces unique operational challenges and to remain prepared for such threats, it is crucial that the soldiers are equipped with state-of-the-art weapons and technology and that new fighting strategies are evolved

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Chief of the Army Staff, General Upendra Dwivedi, on Monday said it would be his "endeavour to ensure that the Army is always ready to operate in the full spectrum of conflict, maintaining complete synergy with the Navy, Air Force, and other stakeholders".

General Dwivedi was speaking after inspecting a Guard of Honour on South Block lawns. "This will ensure that India's interests are secured, and we become a major pillar of nation-building to achieve the vision of Viksit Bharat-2047," he said.

General Upendra Dwivedi during a Guard of Honour, a day after taking charge as the 30th Chief of the Army Staff, at South Block in New Delhi on Monday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

'Evolving technology'

The geopolitical landscape is changing rapidly and technology is evolving at a very fast pace, General Dwivedi, who took over as the 30th Chief of the Army Staff on Sunday, said. "The Army faces unique operational challenges and to remain prepared for such threats and distinctive requirements, it is crucial that we continuously equip our soldiers with state-of-the-art weapons and technology and continue to evolve our war fighting strategies."

On the military modernisation under way, he said the Army was on the "path to transformation" and aspired to be "*atmanirbhar*". To achieve this, he said, the Army would encourage indigenous initiatives and induct "maximum" war systems and equipment manufactured in the country.

"It will be my priority to ensure that the interests and welfare of all ranks and defence civilians of the Army are looked after," he said.

"My responsibility towards veterans, *veer naris* and their families is a sacred commitment and I assure this extended family, my full support," the Army chief added.

General Dwivedi took over from General Manoj Pande, who retired from service on superannuation. He will have a tenure of two years in the top post.

Vice-chief of Army

On Monday, Lieutenant-General N.S. Raja Subramani assumed charge as the Vice-Chief of the Army Staff. He was earlier serving as the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Central Command based in Lucknow. He was commissioned into the Garhwal Rifles in December 1985.

In another change, Lieutenant-General Devendra Sharma took over as the 25th General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Shimla-based Army Training Command (ARTRAC). A recipient of the coveted Sword of Honour, he was commissioned into the Scinde Horse in December 1987. He was Chief of Staff at the Chandimandir-based Western Command prior to taking over as the GOC-in-C, ARTRAC.

NIA nod for Engineer Rashid to take oath as MP

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday gave consent for jailed Kashmiri leader Sheikh Abdul Rashid, aka Engineer Rashid, to take oath as a Member of Parliament.

The NIA's consent came a day prior to a Delhi court's hearing on Mr. Rashid's plea seeking bail to take oath as an MP. Additional Sessions Judge Chander Jit Singh is scheduled to pass an order on Tuesday regarding the interim bail plea filed by Mr. Rashid.

Advocate Vikhyat Oberoi told the media that the Central agency had agreed for Mr. Rashid to take oath on July 5. The agency had said he should be subject to certain restrictions such as not speaking to the media and that the entire process must get finished in a single day.

In jail since 2019, Mr. Rashid was charged by the NIA under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) in the alleged terror funding case.

Rahul, Rajnath spar in Parliament over compensation for Agniveers

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Agnipath scheme for the recruitment of soldiers, which was a major poll issue in the recently concluded Lok Sabha election, led to a heated exchange between Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in Parliament on Monday. Asking Mr. Gandhi not to mislead the House by "making wrong statements", Mr. Singh said the next of kin of Agniveers killed in the line of duty received a financial assistance of ₹1 crore.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh speaks during the Lok Sabha session, in New Delhi on Monday. ANI

"One Agniveer lost his life in a landmine blast but he is not called a 'martyr'. I call him a martyr but the Government of India does not call him a martyr. PM Modi does not call him a martyr – he calls him an Agniveer. His family will not get a pension. They won't get compensation. Agniveer is use-and-throw, like a labourer," Mr. Gandhi said. The exchange took place in Hindi.

Mr. Singh objected to Mr. Gandhi's statement. "Financial assistance of ₹1 crore is given to the family of the Agniveer who sacrifices his life while protecting our borders or during war," the Minister said.

"I am not wrong, sir," Mr. Gandhi said in response, and repeated, "I am not wrong, sir."

Agniveers are not entitled to pension and emoluments but will get a lumpsum package on the completion of four years of service. According to their terms of engagement, in the case of their demise as a battle casualty, the emoluments due to their next of kin include ₹48 lakh non-contributory insurance, *ex-gratia* of ₹44 lakh, 'Seva Nidhi' with 30% contributed by the Agniveer and an equal matching contribution from the government, and interest thereon. In addition, the next of kin receive pay for the balance tenure from the date of death to completion of four years (about ₹13 lakh), and a contribution of ₹8 lakh from the Armed Forces Battle Casualty Fund.

Mr. Gandhi said the scheme was creating a divide between soldiers. "One will get the name of a martyr, while one [the Agniveer] will not. One will get the pension, while the other will not. An Agniveer is not called a jawan. And then call yourself a patriot," he said.

Mr. Singh said direct communication had been established with many people, suggestions had been taken from 158 organisations, and then the scheme had been introduced.

Over the years, the Ministries of Defence and Home have reiterated that there is no official usage of the term 'martyr'.

Bengal Governor seeks action against top police officers

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

West Bengal Governor C.V. Ananda Bose has written to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee demanding "appropriate punitive action in accordance with law" against Vineet Goyal, Commissioner of Police, Kolkata; Indira Mukherjee, Deputy Commissioner of Police; and the police contingent posted at the Raj Bhavan.

Referring to the allegations against him made by a Raj Bhavan employee, the Governor said that if the Constitution and the laws are not followed in matters concerning the Constitutional office of the Governor, it is dangerous and appalling to think of the procedure that would be adopted by the officers and his subordinates in cases involving the common man. The Kolkata Police had registered a case and constituted an eight-member Special Investigation Team to look into the allegations against the Governor.

The communication from the Raj Bhavan said that Ms. Mukherjee informed the media about the details of the allegations and the action taken by the police.

"By such a brazen declaration, Smt. Indira Mukherjee has openly defied the Constitution and the laws, besides the judgments of the Hon'ble Supreme Court which has time and again held that there is a complete bar on initiation or continuation of any kind of criminal proceedings against a Governor," the letter said. The Governor also accused the Commissioner of engaging in unconstitutional acts.

Bengal Governor to meet victims of public flogging, seeks report

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI/KOLKATA

The public flogging of a couple in West Bengal's North Dinajpur district has sparked outrage, with Governor C.V. Ananda Bose seeking a report from Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and the BJP accusing the ruling Trinamool Congress of "unleashing Taliban rule" in the State.

Mr. Bose will meet the victims of the attack on Tuesday.

The National Human Rights Commission said it has issued a notice to the West Bengal government and the State's police chief.

Tajimul Islam, a local Trinamool Congress leader, has been arrested in connection with the case. He was sent to police custody for five days.

"A horrific video has come to light from West Bengal, reminding us of the brutalities that exist only in theocracies. Be it Sandeshkhali, Uttar Dinajpur or many other places, Didi's West Bengal is UNSAFE for women," BJP chief J.P. Nadda posted on X.

At a press conference, BJP national spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia questioned the "silence" of the INDIA bloc leaders on the issue.

"Law and order has completely collapsed in West Bengal," he alleged, demanding the resignation of Ms. Banerjee.

'Bad influence'

Meanwhile, Trinamool Congress MLA Hamidul Rahaman raised questions over the "character" of the woman who was mercilessly beaten up. "The woman also did commit a mistake, leaving her husband and children. She became corrupt," he said. Though the MLA admitted that some excesses had been done, he insisted that the woman was a "bad influence" on society.

Field evaluation trials of submarine bids under Project-75I complete

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

The Navy's mega-submarine deal under Project-75I, estimated at over ₹43,000 crore, has crossed a major milestone in the process with the field evaluation trials (FET) – to check the compliance of the bids received – now complete. There are two contenders in the fray: Germany's Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems (TKMS) and Navantia of Spain.

Moving forward: Navantia of Spain has offered a vessel based on its new S80 class of submarines. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

While an Indian Navy team visited the TKMS shipyard in March for FET, the evaluation of Navantia's offer was conducted last week, officials confirmed.

The evaluation report will now be compiled and presented to the Defence Ministry, which will declare the technical complaint bids which is expected to take about two months, a defence official explained.

Diplomatic sources said that Navantia would be demonstrating the Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) system fitted in a submarine operating on the surface and not submerged and that the submerged performance would be demonstrated in due course.

The design offered by TKMS, which has partnered with Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), is based on its highly successful Class 214 submarine as well as Class 212CD. Navantia, which has tied up with Larsen & Toubro, has offered a vessel based on its new S80 class of submarines, the first of which was launched in 2021 and was commissioned into the Spanish Navy as S-81 'Isaac Peral' in November 2023.

The Request For Proposal (RFP) issued by the Navy, detailing the specifications required, states that the first submarine should have indigenous content (IC) of 45% which should go up to 60% for the sixth and last submarine.

The key determinant, however, to qualify for P-75I is the AIP system which enhances the endurance of a submarine.

In the backdrop of a decision on the deal, the top leaders of Germany and Spain are scheduled to visit India in the next few months during which they are expected to make a pitch for an inter-governmental agreement.

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz is scheduled to visit India in the second half of October for inter-governmental consultations. Spain's President Pedro Sanchez is also expected to visit in the next few months.

Only Germany and Spain submitted bids for the deal. The deal is being progressed under the Strategic Partnership model of the defence acquisition procedure and L&T and MDL are the two Indian shipyards shortlisted to partner with foreign submarine manufacturers to produce six advanced conventional submarines in India under technology transfer.

BJP accuses Rahul Gandhi of lowering dignity of the office of LoP

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Mounting a sharp attack on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for his speech in the Lok Sabha on Monday, Union Ministers Ashwini Vaishnaw and Kiren Rijiju accused him of lowering the dignity of the office of the Leader of the Opposition in the House by making "extremely irresponsible" remarks and "unverified" claims.

They also accused Mr. Gandhi of insulting the entire Hindu community by terming them violent and "*asatyavadi* (untruthful)".

Mr. Vaishnaw said the Congress leader who was previously used to enjoying power without responsibility, now held a responsible post but was still making "most irresponsible statements". He said Mr. Gandhi's claims about compensation to the people affected in Ayodhya were untrue, as the State government's data clearly showed that over ₹1,253 crore had been given to the local shopkeepers and others and necessary relocations also done. The Minister said that Mr. Gandhi behaved in an "irresponsible manner" in his comments on the Chair of the Speaker, alleging that the Congress had always attempted to weaken the constitutional scheme of things.

At a press conference, Mr. Rijiju alleged that the Congress leader's utterances reduced the level of debate on Monday. He said that despite repeated reminders citing the rules, Mr. Gandhi had been showing his back towards the Chair and was addressing his MPs instead.

Mr. Vaishnaw said the most worrisome aspect of Mr. Gandhi's speech was the allegation that the whole Hindu community was violent and untruthful.

Rahul leads attack against BJP for 'spreading violence, hate'

In his maiden speech as Leader of the Opposition, he raises NEET, Manipur violence, price rise, and unemployment; PM, Ministers interrupt speech lasting over one hour and 40 minutes, accuse him of insulting Hindus, misleading House

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's maiden speech as Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha on Monday, during the Motion of Thanks to the President for her address to the joint sitting of Parliament, prompted Prime Minister Narendra Modi to retort that Mr. Gandhi had insulted Hindus by calling them violent.

Mr. Gandhi had targeted the BJP by saying "those who call themselves Hindus indulge in hate and violence round the clock".

"The issue is a serious one; to call the entire Hindu community violent is serious," Mr. Modi interjected.

Hitting back, Mr. Gandhi said, "Narendra Modi*ji* is not the entire Hindu community, the BJP is not the entire Hindu community, the RSS is not the entire Hindu community."

Hitting out: Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi speaking in the House on Monday. PTI

The Prime Minister, who sat through most parts of the Opposition leader's speech, intervened twice.

Taking a dig at Mr. Gandhi's comment that Ministers do not greet him "out of fear of Modi *ji*," he said democracy and the Constitution had taught him to take the post of Leader of the Opposition seriously.

Mr. Gandhi took a swipe at the Prime Minister for being a "non-biological" being, referring to an interview of Mr. Modi. The speech, which stretched over one hour and 40 minutes, was marked with confrontation, interruptions and interjections from senior Ministers, besides the Prime Minister.

All the Ministers alleged that the Opposition leader was misleading the House, and countered Mr. Gandhi.

Holding up a photo of Lord Shiva, a combative Mr. Gandhi started his speech by taking on the Hindutva plank of the BJP, and said his own party's symbol – the hand – was like the *abhay mudra* of Lord Shiva and it had resonance with all religions including Islam, Sikhism, Christianity, Buddhism and Jainism. He also displayed photos of Guru Nanak and Jesus Christ.

Alleging that the Opposition leader had "categorically" called Hindus a "violent community", Union Home Minister Amit Shah said, "Crores of people take pride in identifying themselves as Hindus, so he [Mr. Gandhi] should apologise to the whole country."

The Home Minister urged Speaker Om Birla not to be indulgent towards the Opposition leader beyond what rules permitted, and sought protection of the Chair while pressing for authentication of the statements Mr. Gandhi made on the floor of the House.

The debate witnessed a sharp exchange between Mr. Birla and Mr. Gandhi, who asked why the Speaker had bowed before Mr. Modi.

Mr. Birla said, "Prime Minister is the Leader of the House. My culture and traditions say I should bow to those who are elders and those who are equal should be treated equally."

The Congress leader accused the BJP of launching "systematic attacks" on the Constitution, threatening minorities and spreading hatred and violence.

Asserting that two crore students have been affected by 70 paper leaks in the past seven years including the latest NEET controversy, Mr. Gandhi said, "The students do not believe in the exam because they feel that it is for the rich people and there is no place in it for meritorious students."

He also spoke about the Agniveer scheme, Manipur and targeted the government over price rise and unemployment.

Kharge targets PM, RSS in Rajya Sabha; remarks expunged

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Mallikarjun Kharge

The Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Mallikarjun Kharge, on Monday attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his election speeches, and criticised the workings of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, the ideological parent of the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Rajya Sabha Chairperson Jagdeep Dhankhar expunged most of the remarks made against Mr. Modi and the RSS.

Calling the RSS "an organisation engaged in working for the nation", Mr. Dhankhar asked, "Is it a crime to be a member of an organisation?" "You are saying a particular person is a member of the RSS. Is that in itself a crime?"

Mr. Kharge was interrupted several times by the Treasury benches during the course of his 90-minute speech on the Motion of Thanks to the President for her address to the joint sitting of Parliament.

On Manipur conflict

He attacked the government on its failure to address the ethnic conflict in Manipur, and questioned the Prime Minister for not visiting the State even once, while he had the time to visit 14 foreign countries in the past year.

The Congress president demanded a caste census, an investigation into the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) issue, and called for a withdrawal of the Agnipath scheme.

Mr. Kharge mentioned comments made by Mr. Modi in the run-up to the 2024 Lok Sabha election, presenting data on the number of times the latter had referred to "Muslims" and "Pakistan". Mr. Dhankhar asked him to authenticate his assertions and refused to accept the newspaper clippings the Congress leader showed to buttress his points.

Mr. Kharge was backed by his party colleague and former Union Finance Minister P. Chidambaram, who asked how an Opposition MP could authenticate what the Prime Minister had said other than by citing news reports.

Congress leader Sonia Gandhi concurred as she thumped the desk.

The Chair, however, did not accept the arguments, and expunged the remarks made by Mr. Kharge from the records.

The Leader of the Opposition insisted that he was only seeking to highlight the divisive nature of the speeches delivered by the Prime Minister. He also said no other Prime Minister before Mr. Modi had ever made such comments.

Mr. Kharge cited a remark by RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Manipur, but that too was expunged, with Mr. Dhankar saying the Congress leader was contradicting himself.

Leader of the House and BJP president J.P. Nadda said the remarks made by Mr. Kharge against the RSS were regrettable.

Mr. Kharge raised the issue of the relocation of statues of prominent personalities, including Mahatma Gandhi and Chhatrapati Shivaji, on the Parliament premises.

Third term is for stability, development: BJP

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Former Union Minister and MP Anurag Thakur on Monday said the mandate for the BJP's third term in office was one for stability and development.

Opening the debate in the Lok Sabha on the Motion of Thanks to the President for her address to the joint sitting of Parliament, Mr. Thakur said India was once a fragile economy; in the past 10 years, the country had become the world's fifth-largest and also the fastest-growing economy.

The BJP MP also said that India was, is and will remain "*Sanatan*".

Even as he congratulated Rahul Gandhi for becoming the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Thakur said that the Congress leader now had power with responsibility and "absentee landlordism will not work". "Will he sit in Lok Sabha all day?... he is not there (even) now," the BJP leader said.

Mr. Gandhi responded to Mr. Thakur's comments later during his speech.

In her maiden speech in the Lok Sabha, BJP MP Bansuri Swaraj said: "The path-breaking initiatives

Anurag Thakur

helped the NDA win a majority for a third term. The Opposition, which imposed Emergency ... which murdered democracy, the same Opposition members are creating a constitutional crisis in Delhi because Arvind Kejriwal is adamant that he will not leave the chair and run the government from jail."

Rajiv Ranjan Singh of the Janata Dal(U) accused the Opposition of attacking constitutional positions in the country.

From the Opposition benches, Congress leader Manish Tewari spoke on the new criminal laws, and said that they would establish a police state in the country. He said that these laws had been passed when 146 MPs had been suspended from both Houses. "Thus, they do not reflect the collective wisdom of both the Houses."

DMK leader A. Raja questioned the government on its claim, through the President's address, that it had won a majority with 240 seats.

"I do not know where the maths has been taught to them that 240 is majority and they are claiming it through the President."

He said there was a difference between the Emergency and the rule of Prime Minister Narendra Modi as Indira Gandhi had apologised for, and regretted, her decision while what this government was doing was "complete naked fascism".

Opposition criticises govt. over economy, attacks on minorities

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Opposition MPs in the Rajya Sabha targeted the government over management of economy, price rise and continuing attacks on minorities during their speeches on Monday on the Motion of Thanks to the President for her address to the joint sitting of Parliament. National Democratic Alliance (NDA) MPs countered this by saying that people reiterated their faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi by electing the NDA again.

After a speech made by Opposition leader Mallikarjun Kharge, Trinamool Congress MP Jawhar Sircar continued the attack against the Centre, and said inequality had increased in the past 10 years. He said a few big businessmen were "nourished under the NDA" and the poor became more poor during this time.

He demanded that the Centre stop the implementation of new criminal laws as they were passed without proper discussion.

YSR Congress Party MP Meda Raghunatha Reddy welcomed the President's speech, and urged the Centre to intervene to stop the alleged attacks against his party's cadre.

Communist Party of India (CPI) MP Binoy Viswam said the BJP-led government worked with an "upper caste" mindset.

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam MP Tiruchi Siva said the people had given a clear verdict and the government could not bulldoze Bills as it was doing earlier. He alleged that the exit poll results led to a loss of around ₹30 lakh crore to stock market investors and it was a "very big economic scam". He said a stock market fluctuation was created artificially and people had invested following the statements of "PM Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah predicting a new high" after June 4.

Nationalist Congress Party leader Praful Patel said corruption had decreased in the past 10 years.

Parliament hails Indian cricket team's victory

NEW DELHI

Both Houses of Parliament on Monday congratulated the cricket team for winning the T20 World Cup. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said youngsters would derive inspiration from the victory. "Such historic accomplishments inspire every citizen to dream big," Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar said. PTI

BJP paid the price for throttling my voice: Mahua

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra, who was expelled from the previous Lok Sabha, said on Monday that the BJP had paid a heavy price for throttling the voice of one MP.

Participating in the debate to thank the President for her address, Ms. Moitra said: "I lost my membership. I lost my house. I also lost my uterus in an operation. But you know what I gained? I gained what Rahul Gandhi said: the freedom of not fearing you! I don't fear you, your agencies, vicious trolls, your *Godi* [lapdog] media. I will see the end of you."

The MP underwent a hysterectomy last year around the time she was asked to vacate her house after her expulsion.

In a fiery comeback speech on Monday, she said the BJP paid a heavy price for throttling her voice which led to loss of 63 of its MPs in the Lok Sabha election. She added that now they would not be able to treat the Opposition the way they treated it during the last session.

"The BJP's *'raj tantra'* has been reduced by the *'lok tantra'* of this country. This is not a stable government. It depends on multiple allies who have a history of U-turns," she said.

SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF TELANGANA LIMITED

e-Procurement Notice for (Paper Notification)

TGSPDCL intends to float tender for the work of "Supply and erection of AMR (Automatic Meter Reading) System for the 11 kV Rural Feeders in all the Non-GHMC circles in TGSPDCL, on e-procurement platform.

For further details of the above tender, please visit **www.tgsouthernpower.org and www.tender.telangana.gov.in**

Phone: 040-23431274

Sd/-
CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER/IT TGSPDCL

R.O.No.: 137-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25, Date:01.07.2024

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT CENTRE (HSFC),
CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
Antariksh Bhavan, Bengaluru - 560094, Ph:080-22172614/2613/5610

e-Tender Notice No.: HSFC/CMG/CAP/2(10)/Comp/114/2024-25 Dt: 01.07.2024

BRIEF NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Oh behalf of the President of India, online item rate tenders are invited through E-tendering for the following work.

Title of work	**Construction of Gaganyaan Integration and Checkout Facility for HSFC at Devanahalli, Bengaluru (Civil, PH, Electrical & AC works)**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 4691.00 Lakhs**
Period of Completion in months reckoned from the 15th day of date of issue of work order	**(22) Twenty Two months**
Period during which the tender documents can be requested	From: **11:00 Hrs on 02.07.2024 to 23:30 Hrs on 23.07.2024**
Period during which the tender documents can be downloaded	From: **11:10 Hrs on 02.07.2024 to 23:59 Hrs on 23.07.2024**
Bid clarifications	From: **11.30 Hrs on 02.07.2024 to 17:00 Hrs on 24.07.2024**
Reply to Bid clarification	**Up to 17:00 Hrs on 26.07.2024**
Last date & time for receipt of tenders	**Up to 11:00 Hrs on 29.07.2024**
Due date & time of opening of tenders (Technical Bid)	**11:30 Hrs on 29.07.2024**
Earnest Money Deposit EMD	**Rs. 56,91,000/- (Rupees Fifty Six lakhs Ninety One Thousand only)**

Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (E-NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details, which can be downloaded from website: **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/- Head CMD, CMG, HSFC.

Government of Punjab
Department of Higher Education

Appointment of Vice-Chancellor of Punjabi University, Patiala
(A State Public University Established under Act 1961)

Punjabi University, Patiala is an institution of excellence in higher learning and research. Punjabi University, Patiala established in 1961 is a premier institution of Punjab with more than 53,700 Students and 63 teaching and research departments, 16 Regional Campus/Constituent Colleges and about 258 affiliated Colleges.

To apply for the position of Vice Chancellor, the following UGC qualifications will be applicable:-

- A person possessing the highest level of competence, integrity, morals and institutional commitment is to be appointed as Vice-Chancellor. The person to be appointed as a Vice-Chancellor should be a distinguished academician, with a minimum of ten years' of experience as Professor in a University or ten years' of experience in a reputed research and /or academic administrative organization with proof of having demonstrated academic leadership.
- The age of the applicant should not be more than 67 years as on the closing date of receipt of application.
- The appointment shall be for a period of three years.

Procedure for appointment

- The appointment will be made from a panel of names recommended by the Search-Cum-Selection Committee.
- Reputed academicians may also nominate the name of the candidates for the post of Vice-Chancellor.
- The search-cum-selection committee may consider the name of any academician who may not have even applied and who fulfills the requisite qualifications for the post of Vice Chancellor.
- The Advertisement and Format of Application are available at Department of Higher Education Website (**https://pbhe.punjab.gov.in**) and University Website (**https://www.punjabiuniversity.ac.in**).
- Applications of eligible individuals received by post through candidates/ nominators, in the prescribed proforma shall be considered. Such applications should reach by **22.07.2024 at 4:00 P.M.** by Registered/Speed Post to:

Secretary, Higher Education
Government of Punjab
Room No. 710, Seventh Floor,
Punjab Civil Secretariat-2
Chandigarh (0172-2742691)

"Application for the post of Vice-Chancellor, Punjabi University, Patiala ", should be superscribed on the envelope. The application should reach the above address on or before 4:00 P.M on 22.07.2024. This department is not responsible for postal delay.

Secretary Higher Education
Government of Punjab

NA/12/23795/2023/35190

NMDC LIMITED
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NOTICE FOR INVITING TENDER

Tender are invited for the following items for **Bacheli Complex Post Bacheli - 494553 Dist. Dantewada (CG)** as per details furnished in the Tender documents.

Description of item	Display & Download of Tender document	Last Date/ Time for submission of Offer	Time of Tender Opening	Tender Fees in Rs.	EMD (in Rs.)
Open Tender No: NMDC/Bacheli/ Material Management/2/24-25/ET: 263				**Date: 02.07.2024**	
Supply of Emergency Medicines for a period of ONE year from the date of Contract (Further extendable by ONE more year) to our **NMDC APOLLO CENTRAL HOSPITAL, BACHELI**	**02.07.2024 to 23.07.2024 upto 3.00 PM**	**23.07.2024 upto 3.00 PM**	**23.07.2024 upto 3.30 PM**	**Nil**	**Rs. 2,00,000/-**

The detailed information of the tenders can be obtained from our website http://www.nmdc.co.in under Tender Section, Central Public Procurement (CPP) portal www.eprocure.gov.in; and MSTC portal https://www.mstcecommerce.com/. **Bidder may submit their offer through ON-LINE Tender ON MSTC PORTAL only.**

THE PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS SHOULD DOWNLOAD THE TENDER DOCUMENTS AND SUBMIT THE ONLINE OFFER THROUGH MSTC PORTAL ONLY WITHIN THE DUE DATE AS MENTIONED ABOVE.

Note : Any addendum/corrigendum/bid clarifications/time extension shall be issued on the above said websites only & will not be published separate. Prospective Bidders should visit the above websites from time to time to note the corrigendum, if any, **contact for further query on 07857-230751, 09406489851**

Dy.General Manager (Materials)

INBRIEF

Delhi HC orders RS MP to pay ₹50 lakh to ex-diplomat

The Delhi High Court on Monday directed Trinamool Congress leader and Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament Saket Gokhale to pay ₹50 lakh to Union Minister Hardeep Puri's wife and former Indian diplomat, Lakshmi Puri, for his defamatory posts on X. Mr. Gokhale had in June 2021 questioned how Ms. Puri could have bought a house for 1.6 million Swiss Francs in Geneva. The court noted "allegations of financial impropriety dent the very foundations of a person's reputation. This is more so if the person has occupied, or is associated with another person who occupies, high public office".

CBI books former HEC MD and others for corruption

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a corruption case against a former chairman-cum-managing director of Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) Limited, Avijit Ghosh, his two junior colleagues and others. The First Information Report has been instituted based on the findings that a preliminary enquiry initiated against Mr. Ghosh and others to probe the allegation that in 2015-2019 they entered into a criminal conspiracy with CNIITMASH, a joint stock company of Russia, with the intention to cheat government exchequer by floating manipulated Expression of Interest (EoI).

Attack on Muslims increased after Lok Sabha polls: CPI(M)

Flagging the attacks on minorities over the past couple of weeks, the CPI(M) Central Committee in a statement at the end of a two-day meeting in Delhi said that "communal assaults" have sharpened after the Lok Sabha results, where the BJP fell short of majority. Condemning the attacks, the Central Committee called on party units to hold protests against such incidents. "Such sharpening of communal assaults following the reversals suffered by the BJP highlight the fact that the Hindutva communal forces are intensifying their attempts at polarisation with a renewed vengeance," the committee said.

India, Pak. exchange lists of civilian prisoners, fishermen

India and Pakistan on Monday exchanged the lists of civilian prisoners and fishermen in each other's custody, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said and added that 2,639 Indian fishermen and 71 civilian prisoners have been repatriated from Pakistan since 2014 as a result of New Delhi's sustained efforts. Under the provisions of the bilateral Agreement on Consular Access 2008, such lists are exchanged every year on January 1 and July 1, the MEA said in a statement. "India and Pakistan today exchanged, through diplomatic channels simultaneously at New Delhi and Islamabad, the lists of civilian prisoners and fishermen in each other's custody," it said.

NEET retest result published; all candidates get new ranks

Only 812 turned up for the retest conducted for 1,563 candidates; their new scores and withdrawal of grace marks have led to a change in ranks of all; many continue to complain of rank inflation

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

The retest of the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) for admission to undergraduate medical programmes conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA) on the orders of the Supreme Court has hardly made a dent in the overall ranks of the larger pool of aspirants.

After the NTA came under fire for arbitrarily awarding grace marks, the agency said it would withdraw these and issue a retest option for 1,563 candidates, of which only 812 turned up for the test on June 23.

The scores were declared on June 30, and withdrawal of grace marks and the retest scores have led to a revision of ranks for all the over 23 lakh candidates.

Nitin Sinmar, 21, who gave his fourth attempt at NEET, scored 665 marks out of 720 for which he had got the 17,495th rank. After the revised ranks were uploaded on the NTA website, his rank was revised up by 26 positions to 17,469.

Stir continues: Students protest against the NTA and NEET at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on Monday. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

He said it did not make much of a difference. "This is because in my third attempt, I had scored 635 out of 720 and my rank was 11,880. This year, even with a better score, my rank has slipped 5,589 positions," he said.

"At this rank, I will not get admission in a good medical college in the State quota in the first round."

Tushar Sen, 17, who scored 640 out of 720, was shocked to see that his rank was 39,428 and even after the revised ranks were announced, it improved by only 38 positions.

"According to last year's records, I was expecting my rank to be between 8,000 and 9,000. Even if my rank had changed by 500 or 600 positions, then it would have been helpful, but such a small revision does not make a difference," Mr. Sen said. He was expecting admission in a good State medical college in Haryana but has now lost hope.

Krishan Sharma, parent of an aggrieved NEET candidate, said it is important that the Education Ministry and the NTA should put the data of the top 50,000 candidates in the public domain.

"We want to analyse if the toppers are concentrated in clusters or are randomised across centres," Dr. Sharma said.

A section of parents demand that the data of candidates who applied for NEET when a special window was opened for the third time, be made public. "We believe that approximately 24,000 more candidates were squeezed in when a special window was created at the end before the NEET-UG was due. We want their result data analysed separately," Dr. Sharma said.

Motorcycle theft in Gwalior is first case registered under BNS

Three new criminal laws, including the BNS, came into effect on July 1, replacing the British-era laws

Mehul Malpani
BHOPAL

Soon after the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita (BNS) came into effect on Monday, a motorcycle theft in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district became the first case to be registered under the new criminal code, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said.

According to the local police, an FIR under Section 303(2) [theft] of the BNS was filed at 12.24 a.m. at the Hajira police station at Gwalior, based on a complaint given at 12.15 a.m.

Section 303 reads: "Whoever, intending to take dishonestly any movable property out of the possession of any person without that person's consent, moves that property in order to such taking, is said to commit theft."

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, at a press conference in Delhi, also confirmed that the first case under the BNS was filed at Gwalior.

Three new criminal laws, including the BNS, came into effect on Monday and replaced the British-era laws. The BNS replaces the Indian Penal Code, the Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) replaces the Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr.PC), and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) replaces the Indian Evidence Act.

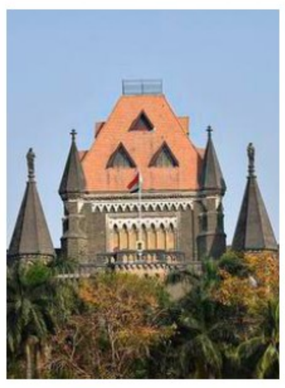
Gwalior Superintendent of Police Dharmvir Singh told *The Hindu* that a motorcycle was allegedly stolen in the Hajira area between 12.05 a.m. and 12.10 a.m. and a case was registered regarding the same.

Mr. Singh said that the police is currently working to locate the stolen vehicle and nab the accused. As per the FIR of the case, Saurabh Narvariya filed a complaint regarding the theft of his bike worth ₹1.80 lakh.

Mr. Narvariya said the motorcycle was stolen from outside his house.

Bombay HC hears petitions against fact-check unit

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI



The Bombay High Court on Monday began hearing arguments presented by Maharashtra along with Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta on the IT Amendment Rules, 2021, which were challenged by satirist Kunal Kamra, the Editors Guild of India, the Association of Indian Magazines, and the News Broadcasters and Digital Association, seeking a stay on the notification of formation of a fact-check unit (FCU).

Tie-breaker judge, Justice A.S Chandurkar, heard the arguments by Mr. Mehta who stressed that the FCU identifies content as fake and the intermediary but did not remove it. "A disclaimer should be put to inform the users, and if they do neither, the only consequence is that the aggrieved party must join the court where defence is available. Fact check is a known phenomenon. Private companies have it, can the government have it too? The answer is not difficult. This is a very clear law that the government can only say that it is false or misleading about government. The government is not the arbitrator. The intermediary will take the call. The government will say that as per my records whether the said content is wrong or not."

Mr. Mehta emphasised that the government wanted the users to have remedies for defamatory content. Balancing freedom of speech with others' rights was essential, he said. The court will continue to hear the arguments on Tuesday.

After scorching June, surplus rainfall predicted in July

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Rainfall in July – typically the rainiest of the four monsoon months – is likely to be 'above normal' or greater than 106% of the 28 cm that is usual for July, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Monday. After 'below normal' rainfall in June, the surplus rainfall in July is expected to help agriculture and boost prospects for kharif sowing.

Nearly all of India is expected to see surplus rainfall except for eastern, northeastern, and northwestern India, IMD Director-General M. Mohapatra said at a press conference.

The munificent July rain is premised on a 60% chance of the emergence of a La Nina – the converse of an El Nino – and the cooling of the central equatorial Pacific by a degree or more. Historically, 20 of the 25 years since 1950 that have seen 'below normal' rain in June have resulted in 'normal' or 'above normal' rain in July, Mr. Mohapatra said.

People use a makeshift raft to help a toddler move to safety following heavy rain in Nagaon district of Assam on Monday. PTI

"Above-normal rainfall can significantly benefit agriculture and water resources but also bring potential risks such as flooding, landslides, surface transport disruptions, public health challenges, and ecosystem damage. To manage these risks effectively, it is essential to reinforce infrastructure, utilise IMD's early warnings, enhance surveillance and conservation efforts, and establish robust response systems in vulnerable sectors," the agency said in a press statement.

Were the forecast to bear out, it would bring significant relief from what would be one of the most intense spells of heatwaves to have scorched the country from March to June.

Heatwave days

The IMD made public statistics showing that this summer, India experienced around a total of 536 'heatwave' days when counted across all 36 meteorological subdivisions – the highest since 2010.

In June alone, India experienced 181 such heatwave days. To be sure, the IMD divides India into 36 meteorological subdivisions, and a heatwave on the same calendar day registered in, say, five subdivisions, are counted as five 'heatwave days.'

'Stop religious gatherings enabling conversion'

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

Rejecting the bail application of a person accused of religious conversion, the Allahabad High Court on Monday observed that the majority population of the country would be in minority one day, if conversion at religious congregations is not stopped.

Justice Rohit Ranjan Agarwal, who was hearing the bail plea of one Kailash booked under Section 3/5 (1) of the U.P. Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021, said Article 25 does not provide for religious conversion but only provides freedom of conscience and free profession, practice, and propagation of religion.

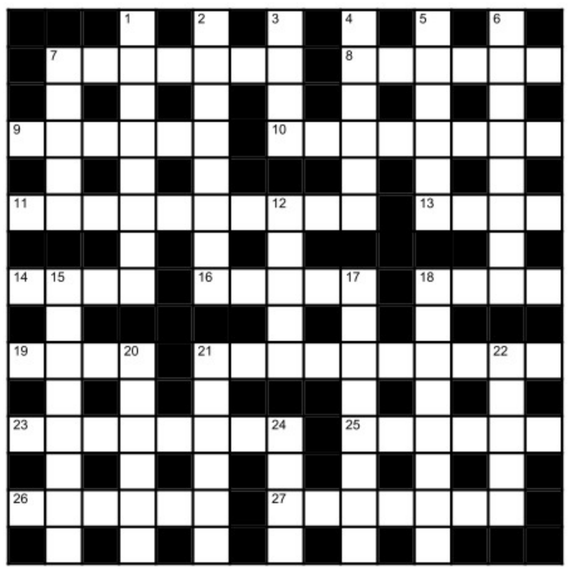
The court noted that serious allegations have been made against the accused, who, according to the complainant, was taking people from her village to attend religious gatherings in New Delhi, and most of them never returned home.

TH CROSSWORD + 14216

(set by Saral)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

7 Frank caught involved in crime before (7)
8 Pest in place near bar (6)
9 Priest inside cycle rickshaw (6)
10 Soldier about to divide baked breads for units (8)
11 Cover arrived containing Ohio university banner (10)
13 Old international model in flight (4)
14 Masters from the beginning arranged competitors' exercise schedule (4)
16 Rotating reel in circles (5)
18 Changing skin colours (4)
19 Summons with wrong RTI (4)
21 Rascal parking in new sector in military school, say (5,5)
23 Show off power in defence (3,5)
25 Losing head, monarch thrashed reporter (6)
26 A great deal of money in old gaming house (6)
27 A work in front of department is clumsy (7)

Down

1 Huge oriental tailless rat below northern gate (8)
2 Composition on the radio, almost complete and relaxing (8)
3 That man getting red basil, basically an aromatic plant (4)
4 Setting clues including one for cleanse (6)
5 Very cold times, Indian eagle finally kept in enclosure (3,3)
6 Star acting heartlessly, takes chance (8)
7 Hansell also regularly turning up for dance (5)
12 A worthless duck (5)
15 Naval commander is rehearsing at first, organising festival (8)
17 Wager fires Spooner, resulting in delays (8)
18 Cold rain destroyed warship (8)
20 Disagreement at home for light meal (6)
21 Mostly container with trace of nickel, a chemical element (6)
22 Big-headed prince with staff crossing Uruguay (5)
24 Spirit of the land (4)

SUDOKU

4		2		3				5
		7	4			8		
				2	9			
	4		3		6	7		
	7						1	
		6	9		5		8	
			5	9				
		5			4	6		
9				6		3		7

No.SS6207 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

F	L	A	G	O	N	S		I	M	M	O	R	A	L
R		M		N		N		N		I		A		E
A	D	A	P	T			A	T	A	G	L	A	N	C	E
P		T		H		F		M		K		S		R
P	R	O	S	E	C	U	T	O	R		G	O	B	I
E		L		F				R		O		M		E
				E	N	C	H	A	N	T	R	E	S	S
O		D		N		A		T		H		R		T
F	R	E	N	C	H	L	E	A	V	E				
C		S		E		L				R		C		O
O	U	C	H		W	I	N	D	O	W	S	H	O	P
U		R		D		P		O		O		A		E
R	A	I	S	E	H	E	L	L		M	E	L	O	N
S		B		L		R		E		A		E		E
E	Y	E	L	I	D	S		S	E	N	A	T	O	R

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	8	2	4	7	9	3	6	5
5	6	7	3	2	1	8	9	4
4	3	9	8	5	6	7	1	2
8	4	1	6	9	3	5	2	7
2	7	6	5	8	4	1	3	9
3	9	5	2	1	7	6	4	8
6	2	3	7	4	8	9	5	1
9	5	8	1	6	2	4	7	3
7	1	4	9	3	5	2	8	6

FAITH

Making the weapons happy

The eleventh mantra of Apratiratha Sukta talks of weapons. Maghavan in the verse can be interpreted as a reference to Vishnu and so the weapons (*ayudhaani*) being spoken of are His, said V.S. Karunakaracharier in a discourse. Furthermore, the weapons can be taken to be specifically referring to those of Lord Trivikrama of the temple in Thirukkovalur, in Tamil Nadu. Here Trivikrama holds the conch in the right hand and the chakra in the left. This is to place the impression of these two weapons on the shoulders of devotees, a required initiation ritual for Sri Vaishnavas. The Lord gladdens His weapons, when He uses them to bring people into the Sri Vaishnava fold. The word *ayudhaani* is plural. If one takes into consideration only the chakra and conch, how can the plural usage, instead of the dual, be explained? The answer to this objection is that if these two main weapons of the Lord, namely the chakra and conch are happy, then automatically all His other weapons too will be happy. In Tamil pasurams and in the works of Vaishnava Acharyas, we find a reference only to the chakra. But such references are taken as encompassing all His weapons.

For example, the Acharya Nadadur Ammal said the impression of the chakra conferred the status of Sri Vaishnava on an individual.

INBRIEF

NMDC slashes prices of iron ore by ₹500 a tonne

State-owned NMDC has reduced iron prices by ₹500 per tonne for lump ore as well as fines with effect from June 30. Post revision, lump ore costs ₹5,950 per tonne and fines ₹5,110, NMDC said in a filing on Monday. The first such reduction in price of the key raw material of steel this fiscal by NMDC, this follows an upward revision for two consecutive months. In the previous revision, effective May 28, NMDC had set the price per tonne at ₹6,450 for lump ore and ₹5,610 for fines.

KKR to buy controlling stake in BMH in ₹2,500-crore deal

KKR, a global investment firm, and Baby Memorial Hospital (BMH), a multi-specialty hospital chain in India, have announced the signing of definitive agreements under which funds managed by KKR will acquire a controlling stake in BMH. The deal is estimated at ₹2,500 crore, according to people familiar with the transaction. BMH has a capacity of 1,000 beds across hospitals in Calicut and Kannur, and planned expansions across the region.

TVS Mobility arm acquires Italy-based auto parts supplier

TVS Mobility group on Monday said its subsidiary had acquired Italy-based automotive components supplier Roberto Nuti Group, which would help it broaden the product range and strengthen its position in the global market. The pact between includes the 100% purchase of Roberto Nuti Group by TVS Mobility indirectly, through its wholly-owned Indian subsidiary, SI Air Springs and investments appropriate to the full re-launch of the company, TVS Mobility group. PTI

PMI signals manufacturing rebound

HSBC India's June survey of purchasing managers shows fresh hires by manufacturers rose to a 19-year high; consumer goods record strongest performance, while export order growth eases from May; optimism declines to a three-month low

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Manufacturing activity rebounded in June, with an uptick in new orders, output and input purchases, even as producers raised goods' prices by the greatest extent in more than two years, and scaled up hiring to the highest level in at least 19 years, as per a survey-based index.

The HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) increased to 58.3 in June, from May's 57.5, indicating a sharper improvement in business conditions.

Producers' optimism about prospects in the coming year slid to a three-month low, with about 29% expecting growth over the year ahead.

The performance of the consumer goods industry was strong, with substantial increases were also noted in the intermediate and investment goods categories, HSBC said in a statement on the index. Intermediate goods makers registered the quickest increase in input costs, while consumer goods producers led the upturn in output charges.

Although input costs receded from May levels, they were still among the highest in two years. Feedback from about 400 firms surveyed for the index suggested that staff expenses intensified in June, along with rising costs of transportation and materials used as inputs such as aluminium, plastic and steel.

New export orders also increased substantially in June. "Despite [orders] easing from May, the rate of expansion was well above its long-run average," HSBC said.

"Manufacturers were able to pass on higher costs to customers, as demand remained robust, resulting in improved margins," said Maitreyi Das, global economist at HSBC. "While the overall outlook for the manufacturing sector remains positive, the future output index receded to a three-month low, albeit it remains above the historical average," she added.

Expansion mode

HSBC India's Manufacturing PMI signals activity rebounded in June, with an uptick in new orders, output, input purchases

- The PMI increased to 58.3 in June, from May's reading of 57.5
- Producers' optimism about prospects in the coming year slid to a 3-month low, 29% see growth

- Performance of the consumer goods industry was strong

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	MONDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	79,476	0.56
US Dollar	83.44	-0.11
Gold	72,350	-0.27
Brent oil	86.21	—

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	3183.80	6.65
Adani Ports	1474.50	-3.60
Apollo Hosp	6140.50	-45.20
Asian Paints	2927.80	10.75
Axis Bank	1261.90	-3.35
Bajaj Auto	9532.40	30.75
Bajaj Finserv	1580.20	-7.95
Bajaj Finance	7276.75	161.20
Bharti Airtel	1454.00	9.95
BPCL	304.55	0.60
Britannia Ind	5476.50	0.95
Cipla	1479.10	-1.70
Coal India	474.80	1.65
Divis Lab	4602.10	5.65
Dr Reddys Lab	6353.70	-48.65
Eicher Motors	4635.55	-37.40
Grasim Ind	2726.40	55.95
HCL Tech	1468.85	9.25
HDFC Bank	1705.20	21.40
HDFC Life	600.75	5.70
Hero MotoCorp	5603.10	23.50
Hindalco	689.85	-3.70
Hind Unilever	2505.10	32.05
ICICI Bank	1211.85	12.25
IndusInd Bank	1456.90	-7.60
Infosys	1590.80	24.05
ITC	429.05	4.15
JSW Steel	943.90	12.40
Kotak Bank	1808.10	5.60
L&T	3526.55	-21.90
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5447.50	62.45
M&M	2875.85	9.20
Maruti Suzuki	12108.65	74.80
NestleIndia	2568.10	16.45
NTPC	369.75	-8.60
ONGC	272.95	-1.25
PowerGrid Corp	329.60	-1.35
Reliance Ind	3120.30	-10.50
SBI Life	1501.85	9.90
State Bank	841.95	-7.00
Shriram Finance Ltd.	2924.25	12.75
Sun Pharma	1520.10	-0.75
TataConsumerProduct	1094.55	-2.90
Tata Motors	1002.05	12.30
Tata Steel	174.07	0.06
TCS	3978.20	74.05
Tech Mahindra	1472.10	41.75
Titan	3431.45	27.25
UltraTech Cement	11904.65	236.75
Wipro	527.35	12.50

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 01

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.24	83.56
Euro	89.50	89.85
British Pound	105.48	105.89
Japanese Yen (100)	51.66	51.86
Chinese Yuan	11.45	11.50
Swiss Franc	92.33	92.69
Singapore Dollar	61.40	61.65
Canadian Dollar	60.82	61.08
Malaysian Ringitt	17.65	17.73
Australian Dollar	55.57	55.78

Source:Indian Bank

'Market data on Budget false pointers of long-term returns'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

NSE's CNX500 index provided a median return of -0.1% across 24 Budget Days since 2000 according to a study by Capitalmind Financial Services Pvt. Ltd., a SEBI registered portfolio manager.

The best return on Budget Day was observed on February 1, 2021, at 4.1% and the worst at -5.4% on July 6, 2009, the firm said.

"Negative median one-month and one-week prior returns of -2.2% and -1.4% respectively, indicate watchful behaviour leading up to the announcement. Returns one year prior and one year after are symmetrical," it added.

'Odds of positive returns on 1-yr time frames consistent with overall equity market behaviour'

"Market behaviour one week before and one week after Budgets are interesting mirror-images of each other as investors seem to reduce exposure due to uncertainty leading up to Budget Day, negative 63% of the time, followed by re-entering once uncertainty recedes after the event, positive 62% of the time," it further said.

However, if one invests on the day before the Budget, returns one month later indicate a coin toss, with a 54% probability of being negative. Once you increase the time horizon, the odds of positive returns on the one-year time frames are consistent with the overall equity market behaviour, that is, positive in 2-3 of any 4 years, the firm said.

Anoop Vijaykumar, Head, Research, Capitalmind, said "There is significant volatility leading up to and immediately after the Budget... the longer term is driven by underlying fundamentals of corporate-earnings growth."

'PV dispatches saw muted growth in June on high base effect'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Passenger vehicle (PV) wholesales saw a marginal growth of 4% in June on account of high base effect and muted demand due to severe heatwave conditions across the country.

The overall PV dispatches last month stood at 3,40,784 units, a growth of 3.67% compared with 3,28,710 units in June 2023.

Maruti Suzuki India said its total domestic passenger vehicle sales stood at 1,37,160 units last month compared with 1,33,027 units in the year-earlier month, a growth of 3%.

Hyundai Motor India said its domestic sales remained flat at 50,103 units last month as compared to 50,001 units in the year-earlier period.

Tata Motors said sales of passenger vehicles, including electric vehicles, in the domestic market, were lower by 8% at 43,624 units in June as compared with 47,359 units in the year-earlier month.

Mahindra & Mahindra said its PV sales in the domestic market rose 23% to 40,022 units last month against 32,588 units in June last year.

Air India to set up flight training school in Amaravati

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Air India announced on Monday its decision to set up a flying training school at Amravati, Maharashtra. It would cost ₹200 core and will target to graduate 180 pilots annually. The school will be opened by June 2025.

The flying school at Amravati's Belora airport, would be the first set up by an Indian airline. It will have 31 single-engine Piper Archer aircraft and three twin-engine Diamond DA42 aircraft.

The flying training organisation (FTO) is an initiative by the Maharashtra Airport Development Company Ltd. (MADCL), which awarded AI a tender to establish and operate the school.Air India said the school would be state-of-the-art on more than 10 acres of land, with digitally enabled classrooms, a digitised operations centre, and a maintenance facility.

"The young pilots coming out of this FTO will fuel Air India's ambition of becoming a world-class airline, as it moves ahead in its transformation journey," CEO Campbell Wilson said in a statement.

"The FTO will be operational by Q1 FY26 and offer aspiring pilots an opportunity to undergo training with world-class curricula at par with best-in-class global schools," said Sunil Bhaskaran, director, Air India's aviation academy.

This initiative will employ more than 3,000 people in the aviation sector, "but also create employment in multifarious allied activities in skilling, technical, and small entrepreneurial ventures, culminating in an impressive contribution of over ₹1,000 crore to the State's GDP over the next decade," said Swati Pandey, MD, MADCL.

The new facility will boost India's flying training infrastructure, as 40% aspirants train overseas due to paucity of infrastructure and quality training.

India's power consumption rose almost 9% in June

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India's power consumption rose by almost 9% to 152.38 billion units (BU) in June compared with the year-earlier period mainly due to scorching heat which forced excessive use of cooling appliances such as air-conditioners.

The highest supply in a day (peak power demand met) rose to 245.41 GW in June against 223.29 GW in June 2023. The peak power demand was recorded at 224.10 GW in June 2023.

The demand for power and consumption will continue to be steady in the coming days due to high humidity which makes the use of air-conditioners inevitable, experts said.

RBI, ASEAN to create platform for instant retail payments

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and ASEAN countries have decided to create a platform to facilitate instant cross-border retail payments.

The platform is expected to go live by 2026.

In a statement, RBI said it had joined the Project Nexus, a multilateral international initiative to enable instant cross-border retail payments by interlinking domestic fast payments systems (FPSs).

Nexus, conceptualised by the Innovation Hub of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), aims to connect FPSs of four ASEAN countries (Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand); and India, who would be the founding members and first mover countries of this platform.

An agreement to this effect was signed by BIS and central banks of the founding countries – Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM), Bank of Thailand (BOT), Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) – and RBI on Sunday in Basel, Switzerland.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY G20
E-Tender Notice No: 17-MYS 2024-25
Dated: 24-06-2024
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Automatic Axle box Temperature Recording System **Tender No. L9245710A**	Rs. 62,25,000/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 10:30 Hrs. on 18-07-2024**
For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date
Senior Divisional Materials Manager
PUB/195/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Mysuru**
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY G20
E-Tender Notice No. 05-CWM-UBLS-2024-25
Dated: 24-06-2024
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Loading, Transportation pre-processing and Incineration of 300-MT of Hazardous Waste Consisting of Oil/ Paint-Soaked Cotton and other Hazardous Waste through Authorized Hazardous Waste Cycler Approved By KSPCB/ CPCB	Rs. 44,99,700/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 17-07-2024**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Workshop Manager
Carriage Repair Workshop, Hubballi
PUB/204/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE
THIS IS to inform the general public that my client intends to purchase property bearing **Site No.19,** measuring 1068.5 Sq.ft and **Site No.20** measuring 261.25 Sq.ft both situated at **Gubbalala Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore** now amalgamated vide BBMP special notice dated 06/02/2024 more fully set out in the Schedule below and hereinafter referred to as **"Schedule Property".** Any person or persons asserting any right, title, interest or claim in the Schedule Property or any part thereof in any manner whatsoever or having any claim against the Schedule Property or the documents thereof or against the owners shall write to the undersigned within **fifteen days** from the date of issuance of this notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights, after which period we shall confirm that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regards to the Schedule Property.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
Immovable Property bearing Site No.19, New BBMP Khatha No.252/19, (formed in converted Sy. No.29) Gubbalala Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Ward No.184, Bangalore South measuring **1068.5Sq.ft** bounded on the
East by : 80 Feet Road & Site No.4
West by : 30 Feet Road
North by : Part of Site No.20 & 80 Feet Road
South by : Site No.18
Immovable Property bearing Site No.20, New BBMP Khatha No. 838/215/226/29/20, (formed in converted Sy. No.29) Gubbalala Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Ward No.184, Bangalore South measuring **261.25 Sq.ft** bounded on the
East by : Site No.19 & Road
West by : Road
North by : Road
South by : Site No.19
Both the aforesaid **Site No.19** New BBMP Khatha No.252/19 & **Site No.20** New BBMP Khatha No. 838/215/226/29/20 are amalgamated and assigned new No.252/19/20 in all measuring 1329.25Sq.ft
H. Prahlada B.A.,L.L.B
Advocate & Solicitor,
For H.P.Law, #2, 3rd Floor, Venkateshwara Complex, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore-560022
M : 7760061073

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **MRS. PALLAVI, W/o Mr.Kannan,** is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **MRS. LAKSHMI PURUSHOTHAMAN, D/o Mr A.D. Purushothaman;** any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof within **10 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our client shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All the piece and parcel of the property bearing House No. 14, out of converted Sy. No. 96/3, converted by Tahsildar, Bangalore South Taluk, bearing Conversion No. ALN.SR.2212/71-72, dated 18.07.1972, situated at Horamavu Agara Village, K.R. Pura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East to West 45 feet and North to South 30 feet totally measuring 1350 sq.ft., and the constructed area approximately 2000 sq.ft., Presently under BBMP Limits Ward No.25, and bounded on the:
East by : Private Property, West by : 30 Feet Road, North by : Property No.16, South by : Property No.12,
C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants Bangalore-43
M : 9845846428, , 9108784843, 080-48658774
E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com

GENERAL PUBLIC NOTICE
(FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY)
The Public are hereby informed through this **Public Notice** that, my Clients by name **1. Mr. BHUMIREDDY THIRUPATI REDDY -** Aadhar No.5914 1638 3212, S/o. Mr. Peda Venkata Subbaiah, aged about 42 years, Residing at House No.1-107, Ayyalurivaripalli Village, Chandrasekharapuram Mandalam, Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh–523112 and **2. Mr. SUDHAKAR BHUMIREDDY -** Aadhar No.3908 3198 2637, S/o.Mr. Venkata Subbaiah, aged about 36 years, Residing at House No.1-106-1, Ayyalurivaripalli Village, Chandrasekharapuram Mandalam, Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh-523112, are intending to **Purchase of the Schedule Property**, morefully described in the Schedule herein below from **Mr. D VARADHARAJAN** - Aadhar No.5465 0638 0768, S/o. Mr.N Devarajan, aged about 69 years, Residing at Flat No.A-3/7, Triveni Apartments, B-3, Vasundhara Enclave, East Delhi-110096, having PAN No.ACVPV5640A, as he claim that he is the sole absolute owner in peaceful possession of the Schedule Property and the same is free from all encumbrances, charges, claims, or demands of whatsoever nature.
Any person/s having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever to the transaction may lodge his/her/their **objection/s** supported by cogent documentary proof with the undersigned Advocate within **07 days** from the date of this Public Notice.
If, no objection/s is/are raised within the said period, failing which my clients would go ahead with the Sale transaction without any reference to such claims in respect of the Schedule Property below mentioned and deeming there is/are no objection/s from whomsoever and of whatsoever nature.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential vacant Property bearing **Site No.13,** Present **BBMP Khatha No.890/106/188/2/13** (old CMC Khata No.106/13), formed in residentially converted **Sy No.188/2** (Land converted from agriculture land to non agriculture residential purpose, vide O M order **No. B.Dis.ALN/SR(E):80/2004-05,** dated: 20.07.2004, issued by Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore urban district and Measuring **East** to **West 62 feet** and **North** to **South 33 feet**, totally measuring **2046 Sq feet**, Situated at **Whitefield Road, B Narayanapura, Mahadevapura Village**, K R Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, Bangalore, now comes under jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP Ward No.55), Bangalore and together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever hereunder or underneath or above the surface and bounded on :-
East by : 25 feet Road, West by : Private Property, North by : Site No.12, South by : Site No.14
From :- K V JAGANNATH REDDY, Advocate
No.1006, Ground Floor, 7th Main, Chowdeshwari Layout, Marathahalli, Bangalore-560037, Karnataka.
Mob : + 91-9449679054 / 9663194940
Email: kvjreddy.advo@gmail.com
Date : 02.07.2024 Place : Bangalore

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY G20
Notice of E-Auction of Parking lot at BAY
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Auction for the following works:

Name of the work with its location
The Award of contract for a period of Three (3) years, for the operation of Combined Parking lot (Two Wheelers & Four Wheelers) at Ballari Railway Stations.

E-Auction on 05-07-2024 at 11:30 Hrs.
For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in (E-Auction Portal)
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager
PUB/194/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Hubballi**
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY G20
E-Tender Notice No.Y/E.29/2024-25/23
Dated: 21-06-2024
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Description of work	Approx. Value
Outsourcing of OHE & PSI activities in Chikjajur-Rayadurg Section for a period of 2 Years.	Rs. 3,06,45,732.43

Last date for submission of bids : **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 15-07-2024**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/Traction
PUB/193/AAF/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Mysuru**
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to develop the Schedule Property into a multi-storied complex by entering into a Joint Development Agreement with its owners: **M/s.NALANDA THEATRE,** a partnership firm, represented by its partners: **Mr.N.NARAYANA SWAMY, Mr.N.GOPALAKRISHNA** and **Mr.SHIVARAM N.,** having its registered office at No.143, Mysore Road, Bangalore – 560 018.
Apart from the said owners, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned within **10 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.
SCHEDULE
All that piece and parcel of the vacant immovable property bearing Municipal No.143, PID No.45-1-143, admeasuring 19,727 Sq.ft., (formerly known as "Nalanda Talkies"), situated at Mysore Road, Bengaluru-560 018, within the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Ward No. 140 (Chamrajpet Ward) and bounded on:
East by : Private Property
West by : Private Property
North by : Mysore Road
South by : Private Property
Sd/- **S.F. GOUTAM CHAND**
Advocate
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560 004.

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned by Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)
BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP portal)
BESCOM invites tenders through e-procurement platform from eligible Bidders for "Conversion of 11kV/LT OH Line into UG Cable system/11kV Covered Conductor and LT AB Cable which are left out during execution of overhead to UG project in E12 Sub Division of Whitefield Division, Bengaluru North Circle, BESCOM for a period of 2 years under TTK on percentage quoting basis."

Division	Enquiry No
E12 Sub Division (Lot-1)	BESCOM/2023-24/EL/WORK_INDENT139
E12 Sub Division (Lot-2)	BESCOM/2023-24/EL/WORK_INDENT140

Bid documents will be available from **02.07.2024** onwards. Last Date for Bid submission is **18.07.2024** at **15:00** hrs. Bid Documents will be opened on **19.07.2024** at **15:15** hrs.
Note: The above tender enquiries were published in The Hindu and Vijaya Karnataka Paper on **16.03.2024**, but due to announcement of Code of Conduct on the same day, the above tenders could not be published in Kppp Portal.
Now the Tenders can be obtained through KPP portal website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Aspiring bidders need to register on KPP portal. Bidders can take assistance with KPP helpdesk contact numbers (+91-8046010000, +91-8068948777) or email at support@eprochelpdesk.com
For electricity related complaints Call: 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP
Sd/-
General Manager (Ele.,) Procurement, BESCOM

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby notified that, my clients have entered into an agreement to purchase the Schedule Property from its Owners: **(1) Sri. B.N. SATYANARAYANA** S/o late T.S.Nagarajasetty; **(2) Smt. KALPANA S. NARAYAN** W/o Sri.B.N.Satyanarayana, residing at: No No.5/1, Model House Street, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004; and **(3) Smt. V.K.PADMAVATHI** W/o Sri.V.N.Kodanda Rama Setty and **(4) Sri. V.K.RAJESH RAMAN** S/o Sri.V.N.Kodanda Rama Setty, residing at: No.2051, Neharu Extension, Malur, Kolar-563130.
Apart from the said Owners, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title and or interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the Schedule Property by the aforesaid Owners, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within **07 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.
SCHEDULE
All that piece and parcel of the Vacant residential property bearing Municipal No.3/7-1 (Old No.3/7) PID No.49-6-3/7-1, measuring East to West 40 ft and North to South 60 ft, situated at Bull Temple Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore and bounded on:
East by : Property bearing No.3/2 belonging to Sri.M.Srishchandra Arya
West by : Property belonging to Sri.M.Sundraeshwara Arya
North by : 15 ft. Common passage & property belonging to Harindranath Arya
South by : Private Property and Shankaramutt Road
Sd/- **S.F. GOUTAM CHAND**
Advocate
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560 004.

CINCINNATI

3 killed, 2 injured in shooting near University of Cincinnati campus

REUTERS

Five persons were shot, including three fatally, near the University of Cincinnati campus early on Monday. Two persons were taken into custody, including one of the wounded. "There were multiple firearms at the crime scene and two subjects (one of which was also shot) are being detained at this time," the Cincinnati police. AP

KHAN YOUNIS

Israel releases director of hospital it says was used as a Hamas base

AP

Israel released Mohammed Abu Selmia, the director of Gaza's main hospital, on Monday, after holding him for seven months without charge or trial over allegations the facility had been used as a Hamas command centre. He said he and other detainees were held under harsh conditions and tortured. AP

TIRANA

Ismail Kadare, author of *The General of the Dead Army,* dies

AFP

Renowned Albanian novelist Ismail Kadare died in Tirana aged 88. Kadare has long been mentioned as a possible contender for the Nobel Literature Prize. He became famous after his novel *The General of the Dead Army* was published in 1963 when Albania was run by the communist government of dictator Enver Hoxha. AP

WASHINGTON

Trump ally Steve Bannon arrives at jail following contempt conviction

AP

Steve Bannon, an influential Donald Trump ally, arrived at a prison on Monday to serve a four-month sentence after he was convicted for defying a congressional subpoena from the committee that probed the January 6, 2021, U.S. Capitol attack. He arrived at a low-security federal prison in Danbury, Connecticut. REUTERS

Taliban to bring up economic curbs at talks

Agence France-Presse
DOHA

Taliban authorities said on Monday they would press the international community over economic sanctions as they attended a UN-hosted summit in Doha with special representatives to Afghanistan for the first time.

Writing on X, senior Foreign Ministry official Zakir Jalaly said the Taliban delegation would use the meetings to address "financial and banking sanctions" and the "challenges" these pose to Afghanistan's economy.

The talks are being held to discuss increasing engagement with the impoverished country of more than 40 million and a more coordinated response.

U.S. Supreme Court grants 'absolute immunity' to Trump

President enjoys immunity from criminal prosecution for official decisions taken while in office, but there is no immunity for unofficial acts, says Chief Justice John Roberts in the majority ruling

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled on Monday that Donald Trump enjoys some immunity from prosecution as a former President, a ruling that will likely delay his trial for conspiring to overturn the 2020 election.

The 6-3 decision split along ideological lines comes four months ahead of the election in which Mr. Trump is the Republican candidate to take on Democrat Joe Biden.

Conservative Chief Justice John Roberts, in his majority opinion, said a President enjoys "absolute immunity" from criminal prosecution for official acts taken while in office.

Minor relief: Donald Trump has been doing everything in his power to delay the trials at least until after the election. REUTERS

"There is no immunity for unofficial acts," Mr. Roberts said, sending the case back to a lower court to determine which of the charges facing the former President involves official or unofficial conduct.

The three liberal justices dissented, with Justice Sonia Sotomayor saying "never in the history of our Republic has a President had reason to believe that he would be immune from criminal prosecution if he used the trappings of his office to violate the law."

Facing four criminal cases, Mr. Trump has been doing everything in his power to delay the trials at least until after the election.

On May 30, a New York court convicted Mr. Trump on 34 felony charges of falsifying business records to cover up a sex scandal in the final stages of the 2016 presidential campaign, making Mr. Trump the first former U.S. President ever convicted of a crime.

His sentencing will take place on July 11.

Modi, Stalin and Ranil pay tribute to Sri Lankan Tamil leader Sampanthan

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Leaders on both sides of the Palk Strait paid rich tributes to senior Sri Lankan Tamil leader R. Sampanthan, who passed away in Colombo on Sunday.

In a message on social platform 'X' on Monday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he would always cherish fond memories of meetings with him. "He relentlessly pursued a life of peace, security, equality, justice and dignity for the Tamil nationals of Sri Lanka. He will be deeply missed by his friends and followers in Sri Lanka and India," he said of Sampanthan, who was a long-time ally of India.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin termed his passing a "huge loss", not only for the Tamil people in Sri Lanka but also for the Tamil diaspora across the globe. "After the death of *Ezhathanthai* [iconic Sri Lankan Tamil leader S.J.V. Chelvanayakam] Selva and Navalar [late veteran leader Appapillai Amirthalingam] Amirthalingam, Mr. Sampanthan was a laudable leader in the Sri Lankan politics and no one can easily fill his place," Mr. Stalin said in a statement, extending condolences to party colleagues and Tamil people in Sri Lanka on behalf of Tamil Nadu.

In a two-page statement, Mr. Stalin recalled the Tamil National Alliance (TNA) Leader's peaceful ways of fighting for the rights of the Tamil people, and interest in protecting the Indo-Lanka relations.

Further, Mr. Stalin said Mr. Sampanthan was a friend of late DMK leader and former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi and recalled their multiple meetings to discuss the welfare of the Sri Lankan Tamils.

In memoriam: Narendra Modi said he would always cherish fond memories of meetings with R. Sampanthan. ANI

Posting on 'X', Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe said: "I express my deepest condolences on the passing of Mr. R. Sampanthan. As a national leader, he worked tirelessly to bridge the divisions in our country. His loss will be mourned across the nation."

State funeral

Meanwhile, the Sri Lankan government offered to hold a state funeral for Sampanthan, according to TNA spokesman and Jaffna legislator M.A. Sumanthiran. "We declined the offer, saying Mr. Sampanthan represented the Tamil people, and their sentiments must be respected. The government has subsequently said they will organise the funeral without military honours," Mr. Sumanthiran told *The Hindu*. The funeral is expected to be held on Sunday in the eastern district of Trincomalee, Sampanthan's constituency.

Sri Lanka's Leader of Opposition Sajith Premadasa said Sampanthan's passing marks the "end of an era". "Today, we mourn the loss of Mr. Sampanthan, who served Sri Lanka for over half a century. His dedication to equal rights for all Sri Lankans is a beacon of hope. His fair and just leadership will continue to inspire me and many others," he said on 'X'.

Retired Indian diplomat Ashok K. Kantha, who served as India's High Commissioner to Sri Lanka from 2009 to 2013, called Sampanthan a "towering personality and voice of sanity and moderation", in a social media post. Further, he recalled telling former President Mahinda Rajapaksa and other Sri Lankan leaders that "they should resolve ethnic issue while Sampanthan was around".

In a post on 'X', Mr. Rajapaksa said: "He was an old friend and colleague and we shared many a day discussing various issues."

(With inputs from Tamil Nadu bureau)

Christian man gets death sentence for 'hate speech' in Pak.

Associated Press
MULTAN

A court in Pakistan sentenced a Christian man to death for sharing what it said was hateful content against Muslims on social media after one of the worst mob attacks on Christians in the eastern Punjab province last year, his lawyer said on Monday, adding he will appeal the verdict.

In August 2023, groups of Muslim men burned dozens of homes and churches in the city of Jaranwala after some residents claimed they saw two Christian men tearing out pages from Islam's holy book, the Koran, throwing them on the ground and writing insulting remarks on other pages, authorities said. The two men were later arrested.

Ehsan Shan, though not party to the desecration, was accused of reposting the defaced pages of the Koran on his TikTok account, his lawyer said on Monday. He also said he would appeal against the death sentence.

Macron aims to thwart French far-right in election run-off

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

French President Emmanuel Macron and his allies were on Monday beginning a week of intense campaigning ahead of the second round of legislative elections to prevent the far-right from taking an absolute majority and control of government in a historic first.

The far-right National Rally (RN) party of Marine Le Pen won a resounding victory in the first round of the polls on Sunday, with Mr. Macron's centrists trailing in third behind a left-wing coalition.

Emmanuel Macron

But the key suspense ahead of the second round on July 7 was whether the RN would win an absolute majority in the new National Assembly, enabling it to form a government and make Ms. Le Pen's protege Jordan Bardella, 28, Prime Minister.

Most projections published by French polling organisations showed the RN falling short of an absolute majority, but the final outcome remains far from certain.

French Prime Minister Gabriel Attal, who is likely to be forced to resign after the second round, warned that the far-right was now at the "gates of power".

"We have seven days to spare France from catastrophe," said Raphael Glucksmann, a key figure in the left-wing alliance.

Sport

France knocks out Belgium, courtesy Vertonghen's own goal

UEFA EURO2024 GERMANY

Associated Press
DUESSLEDORF

Kylian Mbappe and France advanced to the European Championship quarterfinals after Randal Kolo Muani's deflected shot secured a 1-0 win over Belgium on Monday.

Kolo Muani sent in an effort in the 85th minute that looped up off Belgium defender Jan Vertonghen and over stranded goalkeeper Koen Casteels.

Lucky: Muani's shot got deflected off Vertonghen and into the Belgium goal. AP

Mbappe had five shots but none were on target in a low-quality match between the teams ranked No. 2 (France) and No. 3 (Belgium).

Three-time champion Spain survived an early scare to beat a spirited Georgia 4-1 on Sunday and reach the last eight, coming out on top in an exhilarating encounter that brought an end to the minnows' fairytale run.

La Roja will meet host Germany in the quarterfinals after sending a message of intent in a polished performance, with goals from Rodri, Fabian Ruiz, Nico Williams and Dani Olmo.

The results:

Pre-quarterfinals: Spain 4 (Rodri 39, Fabian Ruiz 51, Williams 75, Olmo 83) bt Georgia 1 (Le Normand 18-og); France 1 (Vertonghen 85-og) bt Belgium 0.

Spaniard Alcaraz up and running on 'beautiful' Wimbledon Centre Court

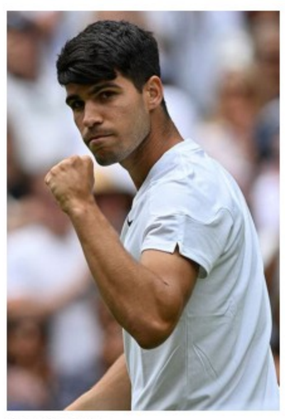
Agence France-Presse
LONDON

Carlos Alcaraz said Wimbledon's Centre Court is "the most beautiful court that I have played on" after brushing off the cobwebs to beat Estonian qualifier Mark Lajal in the opening match of his title defence.

The Spanish third seed was taken to a tie-break in the opening set and trailed 2-0 against his unheralded opponent in the second but held his nerve to win 7-6(3), 7-5, 6-2.

"Stepping on this court, the Centre Court, it is the most beautiful court that I have played on," he said. "I still get nerves when I am playing here."

Daniil Medvedev hit 16 aces in his 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 win over Aleksandar Kovacevic.



Alcaraz. AFP

Former World No. 1 Naomi Osaka claimed her first win here since 2018 when she recovered from a break down in the final set to defeat Diane Parry. She came through 6-1, 1-6, 6-4.

TOP RESULTS

First round: Men: 16-Humbert (Fra) bt Shevchenko (Rus) 6-1, 4-6, 7-6(2), 6-7(3), 6-1; 23-Bublik (Kaz) bt Mensik (Cze) 4-6, 6-7(2), 6-4, 6-4, 6-2; . 10-Dimitrov (Bul) bt Lajovic (Srb) 6-3, 6-4, 7-5; Shapovalov (Can) bt 19-Jarry (Chi) 6-1, 7-5, 6-4; Coric (Cro) bt Alves (Bra) 6-3, 7-6(2), 6-3; 8-Ruud (Nor) bt Bolt (Aus) 7-6(2), 6-4, 6-4; 29-Tiafoe (USA) bt Arnaldi (Ita) 6-7(5), 2-6, 6-1, 6-3, 6-3; 32-Zhang (Chn) bt Janvier (Fra) 7-6(4), 6-3, 6-2; Nakashima (USA) bt 18-Baez (Arg) 6-2, 6-3, 6-4; 5-Medvedev (Rus) bt Kovacevic (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-2; Wawrinka (Sui) bt Broom (GBr) 6-3, 7-5, 6-4; Berrettini (Ita) bt Fucsovics (Hun) 7-6(3), 6-2, 3-6, 6-1; 3-Alcaraz (Esp) bt Lajal (Est) 7-6(3), 7-5, 6-2; Monfils (Fra) bt 22-Mannarino (Fra) 6-4, 3-6, 7-5, 6-4; Harris (RSA) bt Michelsen (USA) 3-6, 4-6, 7-6(5), 6-2, 7-6(9).

Women: Raducanu (GBr) bt Zarazua (Mex) 7-6(0), 6-3; Erika Andreeva (Rus) bt Bektas (USA) 7-6(5), 3-6, 6-3. 9-Sakkari (Gre) bt Kessler (USA) 6-3, 6-1; 25-Pavlyuchenkova (Rus) bt Townsend (USA) 7-6(4), 6-1; 28-Yastremska (Ukr) bt Podoroska (Arg) 6-1, 7-6(1); 18-Kostyuk (Ukr) bt Sramkova (Svk) 6-3, 6-2; 14-Kasatkina (Rus) bt Zhang (Chn) 6-3, 6-0; 7-Paolini (Ita) bt Tormo (Esp) 7-5, 6-3; Osaka (Jpn) bt Parry (Fra) 6-1, 1-6, 6-4; Shnaider (Rus) bt Pliskova (Cze) 4-6, 6-4, 7-5; 12-Keys (USA) bt Trevisan (ITa) 6-4, 7-6(4); Sun (NZ) bt 8-Zheng (Chn) 4-6, 6-2, 6-4.

Withdrawals

Aryna Sabalenka withdrew due to a shoulder injury. She is replaced by Russian lucky loser Erika Andreeva

Russian 22nd seed Ekaterina Alexandrova also pulled out due to illness. She has been replaced by Mexico's Renata Zarazua

PURIST'S DELIGHT

Sneh Rana calls for more multi-Test tours in the future

B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Player-of-the-match Sneh Rana called for more women's Tests. "I think Test cricket is one of the best formats and the more it is played, the better it is for the women's game. The return of multi-day domestic tournament will also help. There should be at least two Tests (in a series)," she said.

ALL-WEATHER STAR

Wolvaardt becomes third woman to score tons in all three formats

B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Laura Wolvaardt (122) joined England's Heather Knight and Tammy Beaumont as the only women to score hundreds in all formats in international cricket (ODI: 105 vs Ireland; T20I: 102 vs Sri Lanka). "Yeah, a very cool stat. Tests are more naturally suited to my game. So to get the T20I ton earlier this year was a special one," she said.

PIECE DE RESISTANCE

de Klerk stonewalls India on day four, Wolvaardt showers praise

B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Nadine de Klerk's 185-ball 61 played a crucial role in denying India the joy of an innings victory. "The character and fight she shows is amazing," Wolvaardt said. "She's a great player for the future and also helps me a lot with the captaincy stuff. She can really take the game away from the opposition," she added.

RARING TO GO

Tryon makes return from injury, returns to T20I squad vs India

GETTY IMAGES

The South Africa women's team for the T20I series against India: Laura Wolvaardt (Capt.), Anneke Bosch, Tazmin Brits, Nadine de Klerk, Annerie Dercksen, Mieke de Ridder, Sinalo Jafta, Marizanne Kapp, Ayabonga Khaka, Masabata Klaas, Sune Luus, Eliz-Mari Marx, Nonkululeko Mlaba, Tumi Sekhukhune and Chloe Tryon.

Spirited South Africa steals hearts, India wins Test

Resilient displays from Wolvaardt and de Klerk deny the host an innings victory; Shafali's double hundred and Sneh Rana's historic 10-wicket match-haul the highlights of the triumph at Chepauk

SA IN INDIA

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

Despite South African skipper Laura Wolvaardt's valiant century (122, 314b, 16x4), India romped home to a 10-wicket win on the final day of the one-off Test at the MAC Stadium here on Monday.

On an overcast morning, South Africa resumed on 232 for two and needed another 105 runs to make India bat again. Though the odds were stacked against the Proteas on a fourth-day pitch with uneven bounce, the visitors showed great character to take the match into the final session after conceding a 337-run lead on the third day.

Wolvaardt, batting on 93 overnight, flicked Sneh Rana to the fine-leg fence to move to 99 and then took a single through the leg-side off Renuka Singh to complete her maiden Test ton. Though she started scratchily on Sunday, the 25-year-old right-hander stuck to her game-plan to score her second century of the tour.

Deepti Sharma gave India an opening at the other end when she trapped Marizanne Kapp leg-before, caught on the back-foot. Soon, Sneh got into the act, removing Delmari Tucker, who was dismissed for a pair, caught at covers. The off-spinner got her 10th wicket of the match when she had Sinalo Jafta caught at slip.

Wolvaardt's vigil ended shortly before lunch when she played down the wrong line to a delivery from left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad that kept low and was trapped in front.

Needing just five more wickets, India would have felt it was inching closer towards an innings win, but Nadine de Klerk (61, 185b, 8x4, 1x6) frustrated the hosts with her gritty stay in the middle, scoring a patient half-century.

While India kept pegging away, taking three more wickets in the second session, de Klerk held fort at the other end, grinding the bowling, as the visitors managed just 34 runs in 29 overs. In the final session, de Klerk cut loose, finding a few boundaries by employing the sweep shot to get to her half-century and helping her side wipe out the deficit. By the time Rajeshwari bowled her, South Africa had a lead of 35 runs, which seemed improbable when India amassed 603 for six in the first innings.

India's openers Shafali Verma and Shubha Satheesh then swiftly knocked off the required runs in under 30 minutes.

Box office: India put on a show with bat and ball on a flat track and in overcast conditions to register a dominant victory in just the second women's Test at the MAC Stadium in Chennai. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

SCOREBOARD

INDIA — 1st innings
603 for six declared.
SOUTH AFRICA — 1st innings:
266.
SOUTH AFRICA — 2nd innings
Laura Wolvaardt lbw b Rajeshwari 122 (*314b, 16x4*), Anneke Bosch lbw b Deepti 9 (*18b, 2x4*), Sune Luus b Harmanpreet 109 (*203b, 18x4*), Marizanne Kapp lbw b Deepti 31 (*82b, 3x4*), Delmi Tucker c Jemimah b Sneh 0 (*3b*), Nadine de Klerk b Rajeshwari 61 (*185b, 8x4, 1x6*), Sinalo Jafta c Shubha b Sneh 15 (*36b, 2x4*), Annerie Dercksen lbw b Pooja 5 (*17b, 1x4*), Tumi Sekhukhune run out 6 (*35b, 1x4*), Masabata Klaas b Shafali 2 (*33b*), Nonkululeko Mlaba (not out) 1 (*5b*); Extras (b-8, lb-1, nb-3): 12; Total (in 154.4 overs): 373.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-16 (Bosch, 7.4 overs), 2-206 (Luus, 73.2), 3-264 (Kapp, 98.5), 4-266 (Tucker, 99.5), 5-281 (Wolvaardt, 105.5), 6-310 (Dercksen, 120.4), 7-324 (Sekhukhune, 134.3), 8-334 (Jafta, 140.2), 9-357 (Klaas, 151.5).
INDIA BOWLING
Renuka 10-1-30-0, Sneh 40-12-111-2, Pooja 16-7-35-1, Deepti 45-10-95-2, Rajeshwari 30.4-12-55-2, Shafali 3-1-7-1, Harmanpreet 10-0-31-1.
INDIA — 2nd innings
Shubha Satheesh (not out) 13 (*26b, 1x4*), Shafali Verma (not out) 24 (*30b, 3x4, 1x6*); Total (for no loss in 9.2 overs): 37.
SOUTH AFRICA BOWLING
Mlaba 5-0-18-0, Tucker 4.2-0-19-0.
PoM: Sneh.
India won by 10 wickets.

On a high: India's 10-wicket win over South Africa caps a season which saw Harmanpreet & Co. beat Test regulars Australia (by eight wickets) and England (by 347 runs) in Mumbai six months ago. The Indian skipper won all three Tests at the helm of the side, equalling Mithali Raj's win tally in the format. EMMANUAL YOGINI

'Grit we showed will do lot of good for this group'

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
CHENNAI

South Africa captain Laura Wolvaardt, speaking after the loss. was appreciative of her team's batting in the match.

"To lose is a bit disappointing. But the character that the group has shown over the last two days is absolutely amazing. To concede 500-something runs on day one, I don't think many people thought it would get all the way to the last session on day four.

"So, just the absolute grit and determination that every single batter had, going out there to see it through until the end was great. I think it'll do a lot of good things for this group," she said.

On her experience of captaining the side in the last two Tests versus Australia and India, she said: "Obviously, at the WACA, it was all about pace, bounce, swing, and nip. Whereas, this was all about the spinners and sort of navigating that. I think captaincy-wise, it was quite tricky knowing which fields to set. They had a lot of funky fields that were really hard to bat against. Their spinners were accurate as well."

About the Chennai crowd, she added: "To have that many people at a Test match was nice. It's awesome how supportive they are of the opposition as well. It keeps it entertaining.

"I think the third day felt like a long time when I was batting out there, but it was nice to see them singing songs, which was quite funny.

"I think there was a (chorus of) 'Laura is scared of Deepti' at one stage!"

Leading the way: Wolvaardt was at the forefront of South Africa's lion-hearted effort. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

T20 triumph one of the sweetest in Indian cricket

Sunil Gavaskar

India's win over South Africa ended its wait for an ICC title. It's been 11 years since India won the 2013 Champions Trophy. Thereafter, the Indian team played well enough to reach the semifinals of most ICC tournaments but hadn't won the trophy.

It's almost like a batter who gets into the 80s and 90s but is unable to score the coveted century. By winning the title in Barbados, India has hit a century and the thirst for a crown has ended.

Once again, it was the bowlers who did the trick for India with Jasprit Bumrah and Hardik Pandya being outstanding again. But for Bumrah's third and fourth over where he got the wickets, Hardik would not have had enough runs to defend while bowling the final over of the match. Hardik, of course, brought India back in the game by getting Heinrich Klaasen out when the batter looked as if he was single-handedly going to take his team to a title.

Rishabh Pant deserves praise too. This street-smart cricketer realised that an interruption in rhythm and flow was required in the way Klaasen and David Miller were smashing sixes at will. So he called for the physio to treat the knee which had undergone surgery after a horrific car accident a few months back.

He took off his leg-guards and lay on his back as the physio strapped the knee.

By the time he was ready behind the wickets, Klaasen was getting impatient and so chased a slow wide ball from Hardik to be caught behind.

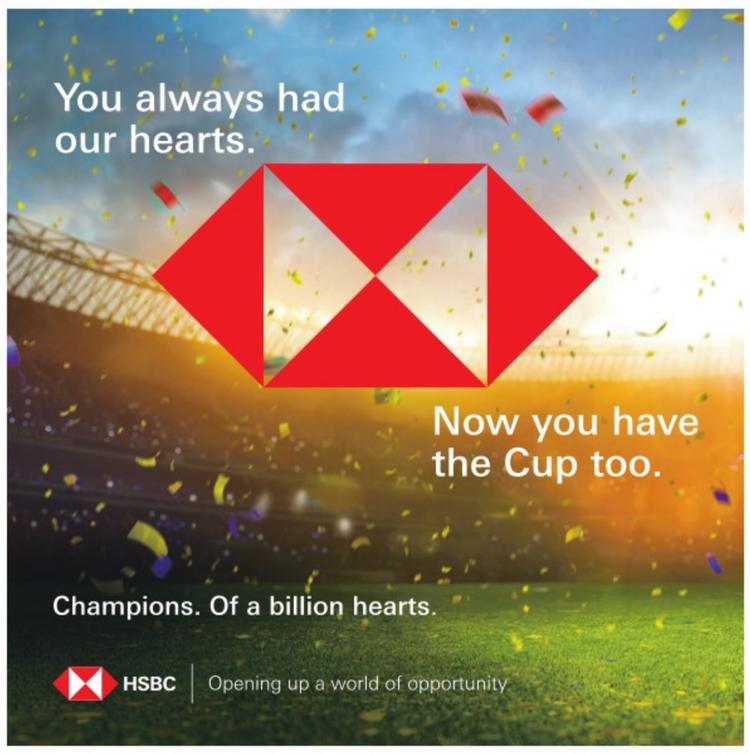
India was back in the contest with that wicket and then Bumrah did what only he can do. Suddenly, the scenario changed and the hunted became the hunter.

Suryakumar Yadav then showed how hungry this team was for a win by taking a superlative catch to send the other dangerman Miller back to the pavilion.

India was by far the best team in the competition and thoroughly deserved to be crowned the champion.

It's been a long wait. True ring the words that the rewards of patience are sweet. This is one of the sweetest wins in the history of Indian cricket.

(Professional Management Group).



INBRIEF

Six Indians in T20 World Cup 'Team of the Tournament'

The ICC has picked six Indians in its 'Team of the Tournament' for the just-concluded T20 World Cup but there was no place for Virat Kohli.

The team: Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel, Jasprit Bumrah, and Arshdeep Singh (all from India); Rahmanullah Gurbaz, Rashid Khan, and Fazalhaq Farooqi (Afghanistan); Marcus Stoinis (Australia) and Nicholas Pooran (West Indies); **12th man:** Anrich Nortje.

Girmay wins Tour de France stage 3, Carapaz takes lead

Eritrean Binian Girmay sprinted to victory in stage three of the Tour de France on Monday as Ecuador's Richard Carapaz took the Yellow Jersey from overnight leader Tadej Pogacar of Slovenia in Turin.

Viswanathan Anand claims his 10th title at Leon

Viswanathan Anand turned the clock back in style to win the Leon Masters chess tournament in Spain on Sunday. This was his 10th title in the event, the first one dating back to 1996; the last one came in 2016.

Raza set to lead Zimbabwe in T20I series against India

Sikandar Raza was on Monday named as captain of Zimbabwe for the five-match T20I series against India, which begins in Harare on July 6.

The squad: Sikandar Raza (Capt.), Akram Faraz, Bennett Brian, Campbell Johnathan, Chatara Tendai, Jongwe Luke, Kaia Innocent, Madande Clive, Madhevere Wessly, Marumani Tadiwanashe, Masakadza Wellington, Mavuta Brandon, Muzarabani Blessing, Myers Dion, Naqvi Antum, Ngarava Richard and Shumba Milton.

Three Indians in the top-10 of world chess

Three Indians are in the top-10 of world chess. In the July list released by FIDE on Monday, Arjun Erigaisi is ranked No. 4, D. Gukesh No. 7 and R. Praggnanandhaa No. 8. At No. 11 is five-time World champion Viswanathanan Anand.

India loses to Malaysia in Asia junior mixed team event

India lost 3-2 to Malaysia in the quarterfinals of the Badminton Asia junior mixed team event at Yogyakarta (Indonesia) on Monday.

The results: Quarterfinals: India lost to Malaysia 2-3 (Sanskar Saraswat & Shravani Walekar bt Kang Khai Xing & Noraqilha Maisarah 21-16, 13-21, 21-17; Tanvi Sharma bt Siti Zulaikha 21-15, 15-21, 22-20; Pranay Shettigar lost to Mohammad Faiq 21-15, 18-21, 19-21; Navya Kanderi & Shravani Walekar lost to Bui Ong Xin Yee & Carmen Ting 16-21, 15-21; Bhargav Ram Arigela & Arsh Mohammad lost to Kang Khai Xing & Aaron Tai 18-21, 10-21).

Pragg misses out against So on another day of draws

R. Praggnandhaa settled for a draw against Wesley So in the fifth round of Superbet Classic chess in Bucharest on Sunday. D. Gukesh also enjoyed some advantage that slipped away against Nodirbek Abdusattorov of Uzbekistan. The lead positions remained unchanged with Fabiano Caruana still ahead on 3.5 points.

The results (after five rounds): Gukesh 3 drew with Abdusattorov (Uzb) 2.5; So (USA) 2.5 drew with Praggnanandhaa 3; Vachier-Lagrave (Fra) 2.5 drew with Caruana (USA) 3.5; Giri (Ned) 2 drew with Firouza Alireza (Fra) 2.5; Bogdan-Daniel (Rou) 1.5 drew with Nepomniachtchi (FIDE) 2.5.

Markram's South Africa can be proud of its stirring World Cup campaign

The run till the T20 summit clash, with close victories along the way, will hold the Proteas in good stead in future tournaments

CRICKET

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
CHENNAI

A warm March night ebbed away at Dhaka and South Africa had just lost the 2011 World Cup quarterfinal against New Zealand. Graeme Smith trudged into the post-match press-conference hall and an insensitive reporter said: "Earlier you were all called chokers, now they are saying jokers."

Smith, moist eyes and a tremulous voice, handled that question with grace and subsequently explained why the Proteas lost. But the word choke became this constant shadow and an easy cliche that trailed South Africa. But what transpired at Bridgetown on Saturday was never a choke as that would be a lazy inference.

South Africa was done in by a superior Indian team even when a mere 30 were required from the last five overs.

Jasprit Bumrah, Arshdeep Singh and Hardik Pandya were hard to get away, add Suryakumar Yadav's sensational catch to dismiss David Miller into the mix, and this was all about the eventual champion reiterating a dominant trait.

So near: South Africa defeated every opponent before falling short in the final. GETTY IMAGES

Yet, Aiden Markram's men can draw inspiration from the manner in which they competed through the ICC T20 World Cup.

An ICC World Cup trophy remains missing in the South African cupboard but the way the Proteas approached their games in this championship remained exemplary. Like India, South Africa was the other unbeaten squad until the final.

Be it defending champion England or a resurgent Afghanistan, all rivals were cast aside. This is a line-up that lacks the services of AB de Villiers, Faf du Plessis and Dale Steyn, all part of the retired club.

But Markram had men like Quinton de Kock and Heinrich Klaasen to bolster the batting, and a varied bowling quartet of Kagiso Rabada, Anrich Nortje, Keshav Maharaj and Tabraiz Shamsi, to lean upon.

Steady progress

Readmitted to cricket through the tour of India in 1991, South Africa shed its isolation due to those wretched apartheid years, and made steady progress. Always a clear and present danger in global tournaments, somehow the Proteas used to combust on seeing the finishing line. Run-outs would happen or rain-rules would be wrongly interpreted.

Cut to the present, the Rainbow Nation, busy making space for all communities in its sporting edifice, has shown that it can raise hard questions in ICC tournaments.

In the future, a title may be seized but until then Markram's men, once their tears dry up, can remember a superb campaign even if the summit clash did not go as per plan.

BCCI has tripled cash incentive to WC winners

Sports Bureau
MUMBAI

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)'s decision to award ₹125 crore to India's T20 World Cup-winning squad, which includes players, coaches, support staff and the selectors, is just a little over three times than the combined figure that was distributed as bonus after the Men in Blue won the 2011 ODI World Cup.

The BCCI secretary Jay Shah in his statement had not specified the individual amount for each category, as has been the convention in Indian cricket. As per the 2010-11 BCCI annual report, each member of Mahendra Singh Dhoni's squad was paid ₹2 crore, the coaching and support staff members were paid ₹50 lakh each, and the selectors were handed a bonus of ₹25 lakh each.

While the report didn't specify the selectors' bonus, *The Hindu* confirmed the amount with multiple members of the five-member selection panel chaired by K. Srikkanth.

Considering the fact that India's support staff comprised a dozen members in 2011, approximately ₹39 crore were distributed as an incentive for winning the ODI World Cup at home.

Singapore wins right to host Ding-Gukesh World chess championship match

P.K. Ajith Kumar
KOZHIKODE

The world chess governing body FIDE announced on Monday that Singapore would host the World chess championship match between defending champion Ding Liren of China and D. Gukesh, the 18-year-old from Chennai, later this year.

Chennai was in fact one of the two cities from India in the race, New Delhi being the other. That Singapore was a neutral venue may have worked in its favour. "We are delighted that for the first time in the history of FIDE, a match for the World Championship will take place in Singapore," FIDE president Arkady Dvorkovich said.

Ready for the battle: Ding and Gukesh will square off for the World crown in November. FIDE

"Not only is Singapore one of the most iconic global tourist and business hubs, but it is also a thriving chess centre with great ambitions and talent."

During an interview with *The Hindu* at Gandhinagar, where the World junior chess championship was held recently, Dvorkovich had said that FIDE was happy to get two bids from the same country and that all the three bids were very strong and competitive.

After choosing Singapore as the venue, the FIDE president thanked the two Indian cities.

"Both cities are renowned chess hubs with a rich history of hosting chess events, and we are confident we will see major chess events there in the future," he said.

If Gukesh wins the title match, to be held between November 20 and December 15, he will become the youngest World champion in history.

Dinesh Karthik named Royal Challengers Bengaluru Mentor

Karthik.

IPL

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Royal Challengers Bengaluru, on Monday, announced the recently retired Dinesh Karthik as its batting coach and mentor.

As a player, the former India wicketkeeper-batter had two different stints with RCB, with the most recent being from 2022 to 2024. During this period, RCB reached the IPL Playoffs twice, in 2022 and 2024, and the 39-year-old played an instrumental role both times.

In 2022, he excelled in his role as a finisher, accumulating 330 runs in 16 innings at a strike-rate of 183.33, a performance that earned him a place in India's squad for the T20 World Cup in Australia. In 2024, he scored 326 runs in 13 visits to the crease, at a phenomenal rate of 187.35.

An astute mind, Karthik has already made a mark as a fine commentator and broadcaster, and he will now be part of a coaching team that comprises head coach Andy Flower, bowling coach Adam Griffith and director of cricket Mo Bobat.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Silicon FC wins KSFA D-division league

Silicon FC defeated Technico Junior 2-0 in the final to be crowned the KSFA D-division league champion.

Silicon and Technico will play in the C-division next season after being promoted.

The result (final): Silicon FC 2 (Wanjoplang Khriam 3, 22) bt Technico Junior 0.

Arvind 'tricks as Sarvagnanagar runs riot

G. Arvind Kumar scored a hat-trick as Sarvagnanagar blanked Govindarajanagar 6-0 in the Chief Minister's Cup football tournament here on Monday.

The results:

Sarvagnanagar 6 (Jayavandan 18, G. Arvind Kumar 24, 34, 65, Valerian Joel 51, S.V. Vinay (OG) 68) bt Govindarajanagar 0.

Gandhinagar 5 (N. Vigneshwar 35+1, Sampath 40, Madhan 47, 48, 56) bt Vijayanagar 2 (G. Hemanth 44, S.N. Suhas 68).

Ecuador advances to Copa America quarterfinals at Mexico's expense

Reuters
GLENDALE

Ecuador secured a place in the Copa America quarterfinals on Sunday after grinding out a 0-0 draw with Mexico, which bowed out of the tournament after finishing third in Group B.

Ecuador faces Argentina in the quarters, while Venezuela, which beat Jamaica 3-0, takes on Canada. Ecuador finished level with Mexico on four points but progresses to the last eight thanks to a superior goal difference.

The results:
Jamaica 0 lost to Venezuela 3 (Bello 49, Rondon 56, Ramirez 85).
Mexico 0 drew with Ecuador 0.

LIVE TELECAST

Wimbledon: SS Select 1, 2 & Hotstar, 3.30 p.m. onwards

Football: Euro 2024. Sony Sports Ten 2, 3, 5 (SD & HD) & & LIV, 9.30 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Wednesday)

Sreeja, Archana and Quadri star attractions at UTT draft

TABLE TENNIS

Sports Bureau
MUMBAI

Two of India's Olympic-bound women paddlers – Sreeja Akula and Archana Kamath – will be among the major attractions for the eight franchises during the Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) Player Draft, to be held here on July 10.

The draft will be held six weeks before the fifth edition of the tournament in Chennai from August 22. The draft has been planned hours before the Indian team's departure for Paris for what will be its maiden appearance in team championship at the Olympic Games.

Women's World No. 10 Bernadette Szocs and veteran Nigerian and a regular at UTT, Aruna Quadri, are also likely to be sought-after up front in the draft. The addition of two teams has resulted in an enhanced player pool, with more than 50 likely to feature in the draft.

A total of 45 players will be picked in the draft, with each team required to comprise six players.

Szocs, renowned for Indian fashion statements and hard-hitting winners, will make her third appearance while European counterpart Nina Mittelham is set to maker her UTT debut. The German will hope to garner interest with Manika Batra having been retained by Bengaluru Smashers. Besides Manika, four top Indian male paddler – A. Sharath Kamal (Chennai Lions), G. Sathiyan (Dabang Delhi TTC), Harmeet Desai (Goa Challengers) and Manav Thakkar (U Mumba TT) – have been retained by their respective franchises.

As a result, the five teams that have retained a player each will have to skip the first round of picking a player of their choice. It means that Sreeja – released by the Delhi franchise – may be targeted by Puneri Paltan TT who released Archana after the last edition.